

RESPONDENTS' APPENDIX

In the United States Court of Appeals
for the Ninth Circuit

No. 21183

SOUTHWESTERN CABLE CO., PETITIONER

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, RESPONDENTS; JACK O. GROSS, ET AL., INTERVENORS

No. 21192

MISSION CABLE TV, INC., PACIFIC VIDEO CABLE CO. AND TRANS-VIDEO CORP., PETITIONERS

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, RESPONDENTS; JACK O. GROSS, ET AL., INTERVENORS

ON PETITION FOR REVIEW OF A MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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RESPONDENTS' APPENDIX

(1)

APPENDIX A

OFFICE OF INQUIRY AND NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING

DOCKET NO. 15971, 1 F.C.C. 2D 453

(3)

NOTICE OF INQUIRY AND PROPOSED RULEMAKING RE ALL CATV SYSTEMS, DOCKET NO. 15971:

Requests that the Commission assert jurisdiction of TV signals by CATV and promulgate rules and regulations governing such distribution; grant in part.

Inquiry and rulemaking directed toward all CATV systems; institute

BEFORE THE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of AMENDMENT OF PARTS 21, 74 (PROPOSED SUB- PART J), AND 91 TO ADOPT RULES AND REGU- LATIONS RELATING TO THE DISTRIBUTION OF TELEVISION BROADCAST SIGNALS BY COM- MUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION SYSTEMS, AND RELATED MATTERS	}	Docket No. 15 (RM Nos. 636, 6 742, 755, and 76
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NOTICE OF INQUIRY
and
NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

(Adopted April 22, 1965)

BY THE COMMISSION: COMMISSIONERS BARTLEY AND LOEVINGER CON-
CURRING IN PART AND DISSENTING IN PART AND ISSUING STATEMENTS

1. Notice is hereby given of inquiry and proposed rulemaking in the above-entitled matter.

2. The Commission has received a number of requests that it assert jurisdiction over the distribution of television broadcast signals by community antenna television systems (CATV's) and promulgate rules and regulations governing such distribution. Many of the requests were made informally in comments on the rulemaking dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 with respect to the licensing of microwave facilities used to relay television signals to CATV systems.¹ In addition, five formal petitions have been filed.²

3. (a) On October 16, 1964, the American Broadcasting Co. (ABC) filed a "petition for Commission regulation of the carriage of television signals by Community Antenna Television Systems," requesting the Commission to promulgate rules establishing areas and zones to be served by television stations and limiting the use of

¹ The following specifically requested that the Commission assume jurisdiction over CATV's: Aroostook Broadcasting Corp., Association for Competitive Television, Channel Seven, Inc., and WLUC-TV. Other parties filing comments indicated that they held the same views.

² Similar petitions have also been received from Capital Cities Broadcasting Co. (RM-755, filed on Apr. 7, 1965) and Taft Broadcasting Co. (RM-766, filed on Apr. 1965). Any further petitions of this nature will be placed in this docket and treated as comments.

signals beyond such areas and zones (RM No. 672). Various pleadings in support of, or opposition to, the ABC petition have been submitted, and ABC has filed a reply; (b) on December 18, 1964, Springfield Television Broadcasting Corp. (Springfield), filed a request for declaratory ruling that all CATV systems, whether utilizing microwave facilities or acquiring television signals off-the-air, are subject to the Commission's jurisdiction and required to comply with operating provisions similar to those proposed in Dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233; (c) on January 22, 1965, Boise Valley Broadcasters, Inc., licensee of station KBOI-TV, Boise, Idaho (Boise), filed a "petition for interim relief," requesting the Commission to assume complete jurisdiction over all CATV systems and impose a "freeze" on all microwave applications for CATV use pending the promulgation of rules governing all CATV systems; on February 12, 1965, Westinghouse Broadcasting Co., Inc., filed a "petition for consolidation of proceedings and assertion of jurisdiction over Community Antenna Television Systems," requesting the Commission to institute rulemaking governing all CATV systems, consolidate that proceeding with dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, and stay immediately operations by CATV's in those areas which now or in the near future will be served by three commercial television stations pending the adoption of final regulations; (e) on March 10, 1965, the Association of Maximum Service Telecasters, Inc. (AMST), filed a "petition of Association of Maximum Service Telecasters, Inc., for rulemaking" (RM-742), calling for the immediate exercise of regulatory authority by the Commission over CATV systems and the adoption of comprehensive rules of general applicability.^{2a} The stated bases of the five petitions are summarized below.

1. (a) *The ABC petition.*—ABC petitions the Commission to regulate the distribution of television signals by CATV systems on the ground that such action is essential to our ability to discharge our statutory responsibilities and within the Commission's present authority. ABC urges that the present and likely future trend of CATV development threatens to undercut the discharge of our statutory responsibilities "to make available, so far as possible, to all the people of the United States a rapid, efficient, nationwide, and worldwide wire and radio communication service" (sec. 1 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 151), equitably apportioned "among the several States and communities" (sec. 307(b), 47 U.S.C. 307(b)).

2. In support of the claim of increasing CATV impact upon Commission and statutory policies, ABC points to major changes in CATV operations since the Commission's 1959 report and order in docket No. 1443, "In the Matter of an Inquiry into the Impact of Community Antenna Systems, TV Translators, TV 'Satellite' Stations, and TV Repeaters" on the Orderly Development of Television Broadcasting," F.C.C. 403, 18 Pike & Fischer, R.R. 1573. According to ABC, the number of CATV systems has grown from approximately 550, serving an estimated 1,500,000 viewers, to approximately 1,300 CATV systems

^{2a}Thirteen dissenting members of AMST have filed comments expressing a contrary position.

serving over 4 million viewers. Moreover, CATV franchises, sought or granted, have been running at the rate of one a day during the last 10 months, in 345 communities in 40 States. Whereas the number of channels offered to CATV subscribers was typically three in 1959, the emphasis now is on broadband systems with a capacity for 11 or 12 channels. In 1959, CATV operations were largely confined to small, or fairly small markets; today there are plans to extend New York City stations to substantial communities many miles away in upstate New York and Pennsylvania. Predicting that the next step will be for CATV to bring New York City independent stations into major cities like Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, ABC expresses fear that this might lead to combined CATV and pay-TV operations which would siphon off top attractions from free TV.

6. Before summarizing the further bases for ABC's claim of adverse impact, we note in this connection that two UHF permittees in Philadelphia have expressed concern over the effect of pending CATV applications for franchises in that city. William Fox, permittee of a new UHF station, WIBF-TV, which expects to commence operation in Philadelphia in mid-1965, filed a statement supporting the ABC petition and commented *inter alia* as follows:

As set forth in the ABC petition, there are now several applications pending for CATV franchises in Philadelphia. The successful operation of UHF station WIBF-TV in Philadelphia, which now has three operating VHF stations, will be dependent on its ability to bring outstanding programming now available to the Philadelphia audience and on adequate protection of this programming from uncontrolled carriage of signals from other markets by CATV systems serving Philadelphia. Unregulated carriage of television signals by CATV systems in Philadelphia will prevent implementation of the Commission's basic television allocation policy which looks toward the operation of UHF and VHF stations in intermixed markets throughout the United States.

In addition, ABC points out that the permittee of UHF station WPHL-TV, which has suspended operation in Philadelphia but plans to go back on the air in mid-1965, wrote a syndicated film supplier on December 10, 1964, as follows:

As you may know, a great deal of CATV activity has emerged in Philadelphia and vicinity. Rollins Broadcasting has just been granted an exclusive franchise for Wilmington, Del. Jerrold Electronics has applied for Camden, N.J.; and more than a half dozen applicants are seeking franchises for Philadelphia, including Triangle, Storer, the Bulletin Co., etc. All proposed systems would be operating within our principal coverage area. Their main offering is to be the programming of WNEW-TV, WOR-TV, and WPIX. The New York indies may represent damaging competition to Philadelphia UHF stations should their programming be admitted to this market. We, therefore, must ask that any film purchase permit WPHL-TV option for cancellation, without penalty, in the event the same film shows are available from New York indies via local cable systems. I am sure you will understand that this measure is a necessity.

7. The ABC petition notes further that the enactment of the all-channel receiver law in 1962 (76 Stat. 150, 151) has committed Congress and the Commission to a long-range television plan in which the expanded use of UHF will be paramount, and asserts that unregulated CATV poses a substantial threat to UHF development. By way of example, ABC notes that a Binghamton, N.Y., UHF station, in operation

tion since 1957, has recently advised the Commission that UHF service would terminate there (leaving the city with one VHF station in place of one VHF and two UHF) if CATV were permitted to bring in four New York City independent stations. ABC also points to applications for CATV franchises in a number of Connecticut towns where UHF channels are either in use or allocated, noting that the CATV's propose to bring in New York City stations as well as others. ABC further lists 70 communities with UHF allocations where CATV franchises were sought between August 21 and November 26, 1964, and 95 communities with UHF allocations where CATV franchises were granted during the same period.

8. In addition to the impact on UHF, ABC urges that unregulated CATV has had, and will have, substantial adverse effect on service by local television stations, since the splitting of audience resulting from multiplicity of additional signals brought in by CATV inevitably causes the station to lose audience and advertising revenues. ABC claims that the rulemaking in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 is wholly inadequate to insure that local television service can survive effectively, and that CATV cannot be an adequate substitute for local television broadcast service for three reasons: "First, CATV systems do not serve the public living in the sparsely populated areas that, because of low-population density, are considered uneconomical for cable systems to reach; second, CATV systems do not serve those who, though within the wired-up areas, cannot afford the subscription fee; and third, CATV systems do not provide the benefits of a locally originated television service, available to all without a charge, benefits which are important to the continued welfare of our political, economic, and cultural systems."

9. In sum, ABC states, the present and prospective trend of CATV growth poses a threat to the kind of local television service now enjoyed by a great many communities throughout the country and fostered by the Commission for many years. It asserts that if CATV systems of the type now being proposed in many major markets of the country come into being, carrying a dozen or more channels, the ability of stations now serving these markets to provide local service will be substantially impaired and UHF stations scheduled to go on the air in these markets may never get off the ground." Fundamentally at stake, according to ABC, is the question of whether CATV is to be permitted to rework the basic framework of the established broadcasting system from a multiplicity of local stations into a nationwide distribution of signals from major metropolitan centers like New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles. If this were to become the objective of national communications policy, contrary to longstanding Commission and congressional views as to the public interest, more efficient and satisfactory means than CATV distribution could be devised, such as space satellites.³

³ABC points out that the National Association of Broadcasters expressed a similar concern about the trend of CATV in its comments in docket Nos. 14895 and 15233 as follows:

"If multiple-signal choices were to be the prime objective of communications policy in the United States, as developed by Congress and the Commission, it would have been a rather simple matter to provide for satellites scattered throughout the country, interconnected with New York and Los Angeles. By this means, every community would

10. While taking the position that the Commission's general powers under the Communications Act include authority to prevent persons other than licensees from causing an undue burden on interstate commerce in conflict with the basic purpose of the act and the responsibilities of the Commission,⁴ ABC invokes particularly the specific authority conferred by section 303(h) to "establish areas or zones to be served by any station" (47 U.S.C. 303(h)). It requests the Commission to propose and adopt rules which would define the areas and zones normally to be served by television stations and prohibit the use of the stations' signals to serve other areas except upon prior consent of the Commission or in accordance with established regulations defining the basis upon which the signal could be extended beyond its normal service area of the station.⁵ ABC urges that the power to determine the areas or zones to be served by any station necessarily includes the correlative power to make these determinations effective against nonlicensees pursuant to the provisions of sections 4(i), 303(c), 312(b), and 502 of the Communications Act. It notes that these sections do not in terms restrict the Commission's authority to the imposition of limitations on licensees themselves, and that explicit authority to deal with specific practices is not required. *National Broadcasting Company v. United States*, 319 U.S. 190, 218-21; *American Trucking Association v. United States*, 344 U.S. 298, 303-312; *Federal Communications Commission v. Pottsville Broadcasting Co.*, 309 U.S. 134, 138; *United States v. Pennsylvania R. Co.*, 323 U.S. 612. And, finally, ABC requests the Commission to exercise this authority promptly to prevent imminent frustration of the development and growth of local services through the uncontrolled use of station signals by CATV systems.

11. (b) *The Springfield request for declaratory ruling.*—Springfield, the licensee of UHF station WRLP (channel 32) in Greenfield, Mass.,⁶ requests a declaratory ruling that all CATV systems are subject to the Commission's jurisdiction on the ground that there is an immediate and urgent need for the Commission not only to assert jurisdiction over all CATV systems but also to provide provisional relief from unfair and prejudicial competition to local stations by off-the-air

receive several television signals. But the Congress and the Commission have declared otherwise; that a paramount objective of television broadcasting is to provide each community with at least one local facility.

"If the microwave complex is permitted to relay signals over long distances, an advertiser will soon find that he can secure wide coverage simply by buying a few stations in large metropolitan areas. Nonduplication prohibitions would not remedy this condition. This proliferation of distant signals will result in curtailed buying of local markets by advertisers, which in turn will soon exert economic pressure on countless local outlets with a corresponding depressing influence upon the ability to program locally.

"Accordingly, we submit that the Commission should extend its consideration of microwave applications to include factors beyond simple nonduplication restrictions. It should examine and evaluate the effect the extension of a station's signal far beyond its designated service area would have on overall allocation policies."

⁴ABC notes that the National Community Television Association has taken the position before the Connecticut Public Utilities Commission that "a community antenna television system is directly concerned with television broadcasting" and that "the matter of protection of local television stations" lies in a "sensitive area of regulation which the Federal Government has wholly preempted."

⁵ABC also requests the Commission to issue a policy statement to the effect that local television broadcasters should be preferred in the issuance of CATV franchises in their communities.

⁶Springfield is also the licensee of UHF stations in Springfield and Worcester, Mass. and the permittee of a UHF facility in Dayton, Ohio. Previously, on July 28, 1961, Springfield filed a petition for rulemaking (RM-636), to establish technical standards for CATV operations. This petition, and comments already received, will be placed in the docket for further comment.

TV systems. Using its own situation as an example, Springfield states that the number of CATV systems in competition with WRLP has grown from 9 in 1957 to over 20 at present. These CATV systems bring into the WRLP service area television signals from such distant places as Albany, Schenectady, Utica, and New York, N.Y.; Poland Spring, Maine; Manchester and Durham, N.H.; Boston, Mass.; and New Haven and Hartford, Conn. Since only one of the CATV systems uses microwave, the rulemaking in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 afford WRLP little relief. Springfield has been unable to reach a satisfactory arrangement with the off-the-air CATV's concerning carriage and nonduplication of the WRLP signal, and, because declining revenues, has been forced to discontinue local program origination on WRLP.

2. Springfield predicates Commission jurisdiction on the theory that CATV systems, in receiving and distributing television signals made available to the public, are engaged in interstate communication by wire within the purview of sections 2(a) and 3(a) of the Communications Act. Section 2(a) states that the provisions of the act "apply to all interstate and foreign communication by wire or radio," and section 3(a) defines "communication by wire" as the "transmission of writing, signs, signals, pictures, and sounds of all kinds by aid of wire, cable, or other like connection between the points of origin and reception of such transmission, including all instrumentalities, facilities, apparatus, and services (among other things, the receipt, forwarding, or delivery of communications) incidental to such transmission." Springfield asserts that CATV systems are an integral part or connecting link in the dissemination of television signals between the originating facility and the viewing public, and hence are incidental to interstate transmission. For, while the CATV systems themselves are usually located within one community within one State, it is established that the television signals intermediately received, forwarded, and delivered by the CATV are interstate commerce.

3. Like ABC, Springfield finds ample basis for Commission jurisdiction over all CATV systems in sections 4(i), 303, and 307(b) of the Communications Act and the principles laid down in cases such as *National Broadcasting*, *American Trucking*, and *Pennsylvania R.* in upholding a regulatory agency's use of the broad powers conferred in its enabling statute to protect the integrity of the regulatory scheme.⁷ It requests the Commission to issue a declaratory ruling that all CATV systems are subject to the Commission's jurisdiction and to impose interim operating provisions similar to those adopted in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233. Springfield claims that prompt action is essential to the success of the all-channel law and expanded use of UHF in small and medium size markets, as the rapid expansion of unregulated off-the-air CATV systems is inhibiting investor interest in UHF television and may permanently stunt the growth of UHF. Asserting further that relief accorded only in lengthy proceedings would come too late, Springfield states that

Springfield also cites *Federal Communications Commission v. Pottsville Broadcasting Co.*, 309 U.S. 134; *Phelps Dodge Corp. v. NLRB*, 313 U.S. 177; *Houston, East and West Texas Railway Co. v. United States*, 234 U.S. 342.

interim provisions are required during the pendency of final rule-making and, being "procedural" in nature, could be imposed summarily.

14. (e) *The Boise petition for interim relief.*—Boise, the licensee of station KBOI-TV in Boise, Idaho, states that it has also filed a petition to deny pending applications for microwave facilities which would relay signals of four stations in Salt Lake City, Utah (approximately 250 miles from Boise), to CATV systems in two communities within KBOI-TV's grade A contour. Conceding that the remedy there requested would be adequate for its own immediate purpose, Boise says that concern over the broader interests of the public is compelled it also to file the instant petition affirmatively supporting ABC's request and presenting additional considerations.

15. Boise states that by allowing CATV to operate uncontrolled, the Commission is, to a considerable extent, abdicating its responsibilities under section 315 (political broadcasts), 317 (sponsorship identification), and 310 (citizen control requirements) of the Communications Act, as well as under its own "fairness doctrine" (controversial issues), enunciated in "Report on Editorializing by Broadcast Licensees," docket No. 8516, 13 FCC 1246, and policies against undue concentration of control of communications media (multiple ownership rules). It urges that these provisions were enacted by Congress or promulgated by the Commission to ensure that the public receives an equal presentation by legally qualified candidates for public office and a fair presentation of controversial issues, is advised of the origin of advertising claims, and is secure in the knowledge that the material it receives has been distributed over facilities controlled and operated by U.S. citizens, with diversification of ownership. To the intent of Congress to protect the viewing public in these respects, it tends to all viewers, and it "is unrealistic to overlook the fact that through the community systems" the subscribing members of the public "are receiving and are, in a sense, being served by the program of the originating station." *Clarksburg Publishing Co. v. Federal Communications Commission*, 255 F. 2d 511, 517 (C.A.D.C.). CATV operators determine what their subscribers shall view, and being free of all regulation, need not be citizens, can achieve unlimited concentration of control, may censor, advertise without sponsorship identification, and ignore the "fairness doctrine" and equal-time requirements for political broadcasts.

16. Boise accordingly urges that Commission jurisdiction over CATV is necessary to achieve the purposes of sections 310, 315, and 317 of the Communications Act, as well as to effectuate the Commission's fairness and diversification policies, and can validly be asserted under the doctrine of *American Trucking Association v. United States*, 344 U.S. 298. Alternatively, in the event that the Commission decides against asserting jurisdiction on the basis of its present authority, Boise seeks the imposition of a freeze on all microwave grants for CATV use, or at least those which would extend station signals more than 100 miles from the transmitter, to protect the integrity of the table of assignments pending the enactment of legislation in this field and the finalization of administrative rules. It further suggests that

translator stations and CATV systems should be accorded like treatment by the Commission, i.e., that translators should not be barred from obtaining microwave facilities if they are made available for CATV use and that the rebroadcast permission required for translators under section 325(a) of the Communications Act should similarly apply to CATV operations.

17. (d) *The Westinghouse petition.*—Westinghouse⁸ petitions the Commission to exercise plenary jurisdiction over all CATV systems, institute a new factfinding and rulemaking proceeding directed to all phases of CATV concern, and consolidate the proceedings in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, docket No. 15415 (with respect to CATV ownership by broadcast licensees), and RM 672 (the ABC petition).⁹ Specifically, Westinghouse recommends that CATV be limited to those areas outside the overlapping grade A contours of three or more commercial television broadcast stations, except where it seeks only to provide better reception of local signals in poor reception pockets, and so that CATV be barred for a reasonable period from entering any two-station market where a construction permit has been secured for a third station.

18. Taking the position that CATV in its original role as an extension of service to inadequately served areas is a necessary and desirable adjunct of television broadcasting, Westinghouse states that the principal cause for alarm today is the altered direction of present CATV growth into larger and larger markets—many with three or more existing stations. It points, inter alia, to the six pending applications for CATV franchises in Philadelphia (noting that one of the applicants has announced his intention to spend approximately \$40 million in the development of a Philadelphia system); to the contract signed by Mohawk Valley Community Antenna for installation of a CATV system with 60,000 possible connections; and to the award of a CATV franchise for the suburban Philadelphia community of Upper Darby which is intended to be “the nucleus of CATV systems to serve many additional areas in the Delaware Valley.” Westinghouse predicts that within the next 3 months applications for CATV franchises will be filed in every major city of the country, and that the final step in the development of CATV will be a national CATV “network” making all the channels of New York, Los Angeles, and perhaps other major cities available from coast to coast.

19. In the view of Westinghouse, the rapid and unregulated growth of CATV in this direction endangers the Commission’s blueprint for television service, as set forth in the sixth report and order, and will frustrate Commission policy with regard to UHF. It has been established, Westinghouse claims, that UHF stations have a much better chance of success in the major metropolitan areas where the oppor-

⁸ Westinghouse bases its interest in this matter on its position as a licensee of television stations in Boston, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and San Francisco, and on the fact that a CATV microwave common carrier and four CATV systems are owned by its parent corporation, Westinghouse Electric Corp. Westinghouse also asserts an interest on the basis of its status as an independent program producer and distributor.

⁹ A “motion in support of petition for consolidation of proceedings and in opposition to assertion of jurisdiction over Community Antenna Television Systems,” filed by National Community Television Association Inc., on Feb. 19, 1965, apparently also seeks consolidation of docket No. 15586.

tunity for broad advertising support exists. Because of the all-channel receiver legislation, the growth of UHF might be stabilized by the promise of steadily increasing audiences but for investor uncertainty about the trend of CATV. Westinghouse states that if allowed unrestricted growth, CATV will almost certainly impede the development of new stations in markets otherwise capable of supporting them.

20. Westinghouse further states that CATV entry into the larger markets will undoubtedly have an adverse effect upon much of the independent programming now presented by stations in those markets, and on Westinghouse's own activities as an independent programming source. In keeping with the Commission's policy of fostering diversity of programming sources, Westinghouse has actively endeavored to develop independent programming, such as the "PM East and PM West" series, the "Mike Douglas" show, "The Steve Allen Show," the "CBS War" series, and "That Regis Philbin Show." If programs such as these, which ordinarily would be sold to many independent stations across the Nation, are carried by CATV into their markets, many of these stations would be unwilling to purchase the programs. Thus Westinghouse's economic base, upon which such substantial programming efforts necessarily depend, would gradually be destroyed by inability to make sufficient sales. Assuming a 5-year growth of CATV systems in the East on the scale established during the last 2 years, Westinghouse states that the cumulative adverse effect on independent programming sources in the larger markets would indeed be serious.

21. Westinghouse contends that its proposal for barring CATV from areas which now or in the near future will be served by three commercial stations, would further the public interest and effect a reasonable accommodation of the conflicting interests of the television broadcast and CATV industries, in harmony with the Commission's policy on the development of stations. It urges that the millions of Americans throughout the United States living in areas not served by three or more television signals, and therefore unable to receive the major programming services, should not be compelled to wait indefinitely for service. CATV can fill the television needs of such areas today, and should be allowed to do so, since the larger, more densely populated areas offer more promise for new UHF stations in the near future than low-density areas. While CATV would probably have some adverse economic impact on existing stations, this impact is offset in one- and two-station markets by the substantial benefits accruing to the public in the additional program choices provided by CATV.¹⁰ No corresponding benefit can be demonstrated in three-station markets, where the contribution of CATV is minimal. In such markets, CATV can offer the viewing public little more than a duplication of programming which either has been or soon will be available via the local stations. Moreover, the possible loss to the public is much greater because of the eroding effect CATV would have on the sources of independent programming. Accordingly, Westinghouse believes that barring CATV from such areas while permitting

¹⁰ Westinghouse would make an exception for two-station markets where a construction permit for a third station has been granted, permitting CATV only in the event the third station was not on the air after a reasonable period, like 6 months.

to serve all areas not adequately receiving the three major program sources would provide a tremendous benefit in terms of increased service to millions of Americans, while maintaining CATV in its traditional position as a fill-in service complementary to television broadcasting.

22. Westinghouse strongly urges that it is imperative for the Commission to stay immediately the commencement of operations by CATV's in those areas which now or in the near future will be served by three or more commercial stations pending the adoption of final regulations to this effect. It states that once CATV franchises are granted in the larger markets and construction is commenced pursuant to those grants, the Commission will in fact have lost effective control of television allocations in those areas. Should even a small part of the ambitious \$40,000,000 Philadelphia CATV plan be consummated, the practical and legal difficulties which the Commission would encounter in attempting to reverse the situation would be virtually insurmountable. Moreover, prompt Commission action is asserted to be essential to remove the uncertainty as to the future role of CATV which is discouraging investment in new UHF facilities. Westinghouse states that if the Commission fails to act within the reasonably near future, Westinghouse will be obliged to file "protective" applications for CATV franchises in those cities it now serves through television broadcasting when applications are filed by others, even though agreeing in principle that these adequately served markets should be open to CATV.

23. (e) *The MST petition for rulemaking.*—The MST petition for comprehensive rulemaking governing all CATV systems renews, with some amplification, the jurisdictional arguments made by the other petitioners. In support of its request for prompt rulemaking action and a stay of microwave grants pending the adoption of rules, MST argues that "CATV's rapidly accelerating movement away from its historic and proper role as an auxiliary, 'fill-in' service bringing television to areas unable to receive off-the-air broadcast service poses a grave threat to the growth of commercial and educational UHF television, to the integrity of the nationwide system of television allocations, and to the continuation, improvement, and expansion of free, competitive, local, and area television broadcasting generally." MST states that regulation of microwave CATV only, and the imposition of carriage and nonduplication requirements alone, would be insufficient to avert the threat. It asserts that the present trend of CATV development, if unchecked and inadequately regulated, would disrupt the growth of UHF television and frustrate the goals of the all-channel receiver legislation; could lead to the destruction of the system of television allocation through fractionalization, blacking out, or impairing local and area broadcasting service; and might prove to be the means of a gradual transition from advertiser-supported free television to pay TV. MST urges that CATV must be confined to its proper role as an auxiliary "fill-in" service, bringing television service to areas which cannot be expected to receive off-the-air broadcast service now or in the near future; for, CATV can appropriately supplement, but must not supplant, television broadcast service.

24. Accordingly, MST requests the Commission to assert jurisdiction over *all* CATV systems without further delay, pursuant to existing authority, and to proceed expeditiously towards the adoption of rules which would achieve adequate regulation, since the "long action is delayed, the more serious the impact of CATV, the more uncertain the rules of the game, and the less effective the action." Pending the adoption of rules, MST seeks a stay on microwave grants for CATV use. It states: "Such a stay is warranted here because of the scope of the problem, because conditions are changing at a rapid pace, and because there are now *no* Commission rules dealing in any way with CATV except as to limited technical matters. Additionally, the Commission should put on notice all persons who now operate or who propose to operate CATV systems that CATV operation, whether or not microwave relay is used, will be subject to regulation and that some CATV systems may be required to modify or cut back their operations."

25. Specifically, MST requests the Commission to initiate rulemaking of general applicability which would—

(1) Provide appropriate standards to govern the technical quality of signals distributed by CATV;

(2) Prevent CATV from duplicating within a specified period, the programming of television broadcast stations which serve, or which normally would be expected to serve, the community in question, and establish proper classifications to determine the circumstances under which CATV will not duplicate the programming of a station;

(3) Subject to nonduplication requirements, require the CATV system to carry the signal of any station within the grade B or better contour within which the community served by the CATV is located;

(4) Permit a signal to be carried by CATV only if the community located within a prescribed signal contour of the station carried, or is closer than a specified distance from the station, or is consistent with a standard combining both distance and signal contours;¹¹

(5) Limit, with respect to television and visual material generally, CATV systems to reception and simultaneous retransmission of broadcast signals without insertions or deletions;

(6) Require the filing of full information with respect to ownership interests in, direct and indirect control of, and officerships and directorships in CATV facilities.

DISCUSSION

26. The above-described petitions raise substantial questions of fundamental importance to the Commission's responsibilities under the Communications Act. We discuss in part I below the requests for Commission action to extend the requirements of dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 to all CATV systems, and in part II the additional questions presented by petitioners' requests for other measures.

PART I

27. Insofar as petitioners urge that the rules governing CATV systems using microwave should extend to all CATV systems, we are in agreement. It has already been determined in the report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 that CATV systems should carry local

¹¹ In a policy statement submitted to the Commission, MST suggested the grade B contour of the station carried, or a distance of 80-90 miles.

tations without duplication. The considerations underlying our conclusion that this is necessary in the public interest to avoid unreasonable competitive disadvantage and prejudicial effect on existing and potential television broadcast service, apply equally to all CATV systems and need no elaboration here. The main questions are therefore (1) whether the Commission can appropriately proceed on the basis of its present statutory authority, and (2) whether there are any special problems of substance or procedures inherent in an extension of the carriage and nonduplication requirements to nonmicrowave, or so-called off-the-air CATV systems.

28. The Commission's jurisdiction to regulate nonmicrowave CATV systems under the present provisions of the Communications Act is obviously subject to reasonable difference of opinion. We have on more than one occasion in the past concluded that the Communications Act, without amendment, probably would not support broad jurisdiction, though not disclaiming jurisdiction to prevent adverse CATV impact on television broadcasting.¹² Moreover, we have previously taken the position that clarifying legislation would be appropriate, even assuming present jurisdiction, and have recommended such legislation to Congress. While the 86th Congress gave extensive consideration to some of the various proposals submitted by the Commission and others, no legislation was enacted and bills introduced in subsequent Congresses received no action.¹³ However, neither the Commission's prior pronouncements nor the failure of Congress to act favorably on clarifying proposals is determinative of the legal question of the Commission's jurisdiction and authority over off-the-air CATV systems under the existing provisions of the Communications Act. *Helvering v. Clifford*, 309 U.S. 311, 337-338; *United States v. Price*, 361 U.S. 304, 310-313; *American Trucking Assoc. v. United States*, 344 U.S. 298, 314; *Carter Mountain Transmission Corp. v. F.C.C.*, 321 F.2d 359, 364 (C.A.D.C.), *cert. den.* 375 U.S. 951 (1963).

29. Petitioners have made a strong case in support of present jurisdiction. We have carefully reexamined the pertinent provisions of the Communications Act in light of their arguments and the authorities cited. Upon such reconsideration, we conclude, for the reasons set forth in the attached memorandum as to jurisdiction, that CATV systems are engaged in interstate communication by wire to which the

¹² See *Frontier Broadcasting Co. v. Collier*, 16 Pike & Fischer, R.R. 1005; *Report and Order in Docket No. 12443*, 26 F.C.C. 403; *Distribution of Television Programs by CATV Systems*, FCC 62-871.

¹³ Following the report and order in docket No. 12443, *supra*, the Commission recommended that the Congress amend the Communications Act to require CATV systems to obtain the consent of the stations whose signals they transmit, and to carry the signal of the local station (without degradation) upon request. These proposals were embodied in S. 1801, and H.R. 6748, introduced in the 86th Congress, including S. 2653 (providing for the licensing of CATV systems) and S. 2303 (providing for the issuance of certificates of convenience and necessity). The Communications Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce held hearings on these bills, and several other bills which involved CATV systems, including S. 1739, S. 1741, and S. 1886. On Sept. 8, 1959, the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce reported favorably on S. 2653. S. Rept. 923, 86 Cong., 1st Sess. In 1960, following 2 days of debate on the floor of the Senate (106 Cong. Rec. 10326, 10344, 10407, and 10520), S. 2653 was re-committed to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce by one vote, 106 Cong. Rec. 10547. As a result, no legislation relating to CATV systems was enacted in the 86th Congress. In the 87th Congress, the Commission proposed S. 1044, and H.R. 6840, which would have expressly authorized the Commission to issue rules for the protection of stations providing locally originated television programs. These bills received no action. The Commission proposed no legislation to the 88th Congress, and no action was taken on any bills.

provisions of the Communications Act are applicable (secs. 2(a) and 3(a), 47 U.S.C. 152(a) and 153(a)). It would further appear that the Commission's statutory powers, particularly under sections 4(i), 303 (f), (h), and (r), include authority to promulgate necessary and reasonable regulations to carry out the provisions of sections 1 and 307(b) of the act and to prevent frustration of the regulatory scheme by CATV operations, irrespective of the use of microwave.¹⁴

30. For the reasons set forth in the report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, it is desirable to extend the requirements there adopted to all CATV systems. We have accordingly decided to institute rulemaking to that effect. Although no specific rules are appended, it is proposed to make the substantive provisions of the rules adopted in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 applicable to all CATV systems. We repeat that two particular issues are raised—(i) the Commission's authority to promulgate such rules and (ii) the problem of substance or procedure posed by rules going to nonmicrowave CATV systems. In the latter respect we also point out that we shall take into account the experience gained, or additional information received, as a result of interim operation under the revised provision adopted in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, prior to their becoming generally applicable. In this way, we shall be in a position (assuming favorable resolution of the jurisdictional issue) to promulgate rules affecting all CATV systems and fully and fairly implementing the public interest both with respect to establishment and maintenance of local broadcast service and the provision of multiple television services. See paragraph 6, FCC 65-335, issued this day.¹⁵

31. Other matters should be pointed up. While we have initially concluded that we have jurisdiction, we would carefully consider comments addressed to this aspect. The attached memorandum presents the case for jurisdiction—a strong one in our view—and is set out in order to afford the interested parties a full opportunity to direct their comments to that case. Second, we adhere to our position that clarifying legislation would be desirable, and have no intention of bypassing congressional action in this field. We are clearly concerned here with new and important questions of policy and law in the communications field. That being the case, the Commission would welcome (i) a congressional guidance as to policy and (ii) congressional clarification of our authority, which would lay the troublesome jurisdictional question at rest. It is our understanding that hearings will shortly commence. The information gathered in this proceeding will we think, be of assistance to the Congress in its consideration of the matter. In short, by instituting this proceeding, we shall gather essential data, both for the Commission and the Congress, and will have conserved valuable time and be in a position to take final effective action in either of two eventualities: (1) Congress has enacted legislation in this field which does not preclude the Commission from

¹⁴ In initially reaching this conclusion, we have considered the various comments submitted in opposition to the ABC and other petitions.

¹⁵ Since there has been extensive examination of the matters in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, a shorter time for filing comments and reply comments on part I will therefore be scheduled. We are unable to agree with Springfield's contention that immediate relief is procedural in nature or to conclude that summary procedures would be proper.

promulating rules along the lines of those adopted in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233; or (2) no legislation is forthcoming, and the comments in the rulemaking proceeding lead to the conclusion that the Commission does have present jurisdiction to extend the substantive provisions of the rules adopted in the above dockets to all CATV systems, whether or not they use microwave facilities. In the latter event, we would be remiss in our statutory duties if we had failed to exercise, without undue delay, our existing jurisdiction and authority to promote a public interest in this important area. The rulemaking proceeding instituted by this notice will thus be conducted concurrently with legislative consideration, with final Commission decision withheld for an appropriate period to afford Congress an opportunity to act.

32. Third, in the event that it is ultimately determined that the Commission has jurisdiction over all CATV systems, we do not contemplate regulation of such matters as CATV rates to subscribers, the extent of the service to be provided, or the award of CATV franchises. Apart from the areas in which the Commission has specifically indicated concern and until such time as regulatory measures are proposed, no Federal preemption is intended. Rather, we view our role as one of cooperating with local franchising authorities and State regulatory commissions to the maximum extent possible, such as by making information available to them, consulting with respect to technical standards for CATV operations, etc.

33. Fourth, in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 we decided that the public interest would be served by some accommodation which would permit a CATV system to duplicate the programs of a local station in color where the station transmits only in black and white (report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, par. 143). However, we were unable to determine without further information whether this exception should apply across the board or whether the CATV system should be required to make a showing that a certain number or percentage of its subscribers possess color receiving sets before color duplication would be permitted. Accordingly, comments are requested as to whether the rules should require a threshold showing by the CATV and, if so, what kind of showing would be appropriate. Whether or not the Commission adopts rules going to all CATV systems, the comments received will, in any event, be applicable to microwave CATV systems.

34. We will consider in this proceeding the question of whether there should be some kind of transition period before the carriage provisions are made fully applicable to microwave and nonmicrowave CATV systems with limited channel capacity. It is contemplated that a questionnaire will be mailed to every known CATV operator in the near future seeking specific information to assist in making this determination (see FCC 65-335, par. 161). In the event that any CATV operator is inadvertently omitted from such distribution, a copy of the questionnaire will be supplied upon request to the Commission.

35. The proceedings in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 were primarily concerned with commercial rather than educational television stations (ETV). While the carriage requirements were made applicable to

educational stations, the nonduplication provisions were not, since many of the pertinent considerations are obviously not present in the case of ETV. We recognize, however, that the carriage requirement alone may not be sufficient to promote the sound growth of local educational stations. Accordingly, information is requested in this proceeding as to the nature of any further problems of ETV arising from CATV operations and what Commission action might be appropriate.

36. We are also interested in such questions as whether the carriage and nonduplication requirements should be extended to protect station-owned translators, which are located outside the station's predicted grade B contour, so as to encourage these off-the-air facilities. If protection were to be accorded such translator facilities, should the rules be along the lines of those adopted for local stations, or would different provisions be more appropriate? Conversely, some of the comments in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 suggested that station-owned translators should be precluded from duplicating the programs of local stations. Interested persons are invited to address themselves in this proceeding to the question of whether there is a problem warranting action.¹⁶

PART II

37. The petitions also raise broader questions of substance concerning CATV development, both microwave and nonmicrowave, which were not involved or settled in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233. Thus, it is asserted (1) that the trend of CATV entry into large population centers like Philadelphia and Cleveland poses a threat to the development of independent stations and program sources, which will not be averted by the carriage and nonduplication requirements and which may frustrate the goal of the all-channel receiver legislation in the communities with the most immediate promise for new UHF facilities. It is also asserted (2) that generalized restrictions on the distance the signal of a television station may be extended beyond the station's contour are necessary in order to prevent the multiplicity of local stations contemplated by the sixth report and order from being ultimately displaced by a CATV "network" distributing the New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles stations nationwide. And it is asserted (3) that CATV systems should be required to select the stations they carry in an order of priority determined by the distance of each station from the system, i.e., that the system should carry nearest stations in preference to more distant ones, so as to avoid "leapfrogging." Next, the petitions raise a question (4) as to whether CATV systems should be limited to receiving and simultaneously retransmitting television broadcast signals without addition or deletion, or should be subject to sections 315, 317, and 310 of the act and various Commission policies (e.g., the "fairness doctrine" and concentration of control policies). A related question is presented as to the possible development of combined CATV-pay TV operations and the need for regulation to avoid adverse consequences to the free television broadcast

¹⁶ In this connection, comments are requested on the extent to which networks and other program suppliers, through contracts or otherwise, affirmatively restrict duplication by translators.

past service. And (5), it appears to the Commission that there are other areas of concern.

38. For the reasons next set forth, we believe that inquiry to ascertain the facts in each of these areas is warranted in the public interest. The inquiry will develop information upon which we can determine whether rules or legislative proposals to the Congress are appropriate.

(1) *Effect on Development of Independent (Nonnetwork)
UHF Stations*

39. Of concern to the Commission is the mushrooming entry of CATV into major centers of population insofar as this affects the opportunities for new UHF stations. The developing pattern of CATV described by petitioners is confirmed by the CATV industry itself as an augury of coming events. The largest CATV group, H. & B. American Corp., recently advised its stockholders that CATV activity in larger cities is of first importance among significant CATV developments, stating:

First, and of overriding importance, is the shift of CATV strength to a new locus. The centers of the most intense CATV development now are the very large cities. In the past our attention was focused on the smaller markets and in these we reached about 2 percent of the Nation's television population.

But today we are in the throes of spirited competition for the development of cities such as New York, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Birmingham, Syracuse, Rochester, Wilmington, Norfolk, the entire State of Connecticut, and entire counties such as the 37 cities of Camden County, N.J., all of Montgomery and Chester Counties, Pa., etc. Baltimore will be the next large U.S. city to receive multiple CATV franchise applications.

The competition for CATV franchises is unparalleled in the history of American communications. It exceeds even the pell-mell scramble for television broadcasting permits that occurred throughout the United States in the first few months after the long television freeze in the late forties and fifties. We learn that new CATV systems are being sought or authorized at the rate of one a day. It is reported that at the end of 1964, 700 cities throughout the Nation were entertaining CATV proposals.

In virtually every instance these authorizations are fought for in intensively competitive proceedings before local governing bodies. The applicants represent a cross section of the most prominent companies in the Nation. For example, in Philadelphia they include the Philadelphia Bulletin, Storer Broadcasting, the Philadelphia Inquirer-Triangle-Annenberg interests, a number of well financed influential local groups, and a sprinkling of large CATV organizations.

40. The shift in the locus of CATV activities to the larger cities is cause for concern as to the effect on UHF and the stated goal of Congress in enacting the all-channel receiver legislation to make "provision for at least four commercial stations in all large centers of population" (H. Rept. No. 1559, 87th Cong., 2d Sess., p. 3). The following are the underlying congressional and Commission policy considerations as to development of the UHF:

41. (i) Congress has only recently reaffirmed the goal of "an effective national television" system through use of the UHF channels (*id.*, p. 6; see also p. 3). As the first item in such an effective television system, Congress listed the need "for at least four commercial stations in all large centers of population" (*id.* at p. 3). Such a

fourth station might make possible a fourth national network or the formation of FM-type "networks" in television, thus bringing added diversity to the field. Or, as both House and Senate reports stress, such a station might be "available particularly for local programming and self-expression * * *"—an important need in many markets "because all of the available stations are network affiliates" (H. Rept. p. 3; S. Rept. No. 1526, 87th Cong., 2d Sess., p. 4). In short, the fourth commercial station is important both to make our system "truly competitive on a national scale" (H. Rept., p. 3) and to further better local service.

42. (ii) Congress has also determined that the way to achieve the above goal is through effective use of UHF channels, since most large centers of population now have three full network stations and many unoccupied VHF frequencies. While Congress was generally aware of CATV (e.g., the same Senate committee which considered the all-channel television receiver law in 1962 had held extensive hearings on CATV in 1959), it stated its view that all-channel receiver legislation, because it would develop UHF, "is not only the best but the only practicable way of achieving an adequate commercial and educational system in the United States" (H. Rept. at p. 4; S. Rept. at p. 7). It therefore enacted this "unique" all-channel set legislation, stating the increased price which the consumer will have to pay, at least initially, for all-channel sets "will be well worth the cost if this is the only way in which the American people can be assured of the benefits of television service to the fullest degree" (H. Rept. at pp. 8-9). Since the sale of television sets now exceeds 9,000,000 a year, the American people are now paying those costs, in the substantial amount of many millions each year.

43. (iii) There is every present indication that the all-channel set requirement is having its desired effect, and that the legislative goal is in the process of being realized. There has been greatly increased interest in UHF, with many applications filed—preponderantly for the larger cities. See attached chart (app. A) showing the market with no commercial UHF station on the air but with commercial UHF construction permits granted and/or commercial UHF channels applied for. But as Congress noted in 1962, the all-channel law will not smooth the road for the UHF broadcaster overnight; rather, "Substantial time will have to elapse * * * before a large majority of the public becomes equipped with all-channel receivers" (H. Rept., at p. 7; S. Rept., at p. 6).

44. (iv) The Commission also has noted that UHF stations face considerable obstacles during this crucial period. UHF must overcome the psychological factor of its previous failure in intermixed markets. Further, apart from intermixture and the initial limitation on audience pending set conversion or turnover, independent UHF stations in these cities will compete with three network affiliates for audience attention without having the advantage of the attraction of the popular network programming. The Commission therefore has stressed that it will not now take action which would be inconsistent with the congressional goal and which might jeopardize the "invest

ent in all-channel receivers" (H. Rept. at p. 8) which has been asked of the American public.

45. The question before the Commission is what is the effect of CATV entry into the large markets upon the realization of the above goals for UHF. The problem is perhaps best pointed up by consideration of a specific case—Philadelphia. That city is a prime example of potential UHF activity, with two UHF independent stations scheduled to go on the air in mid-1965. But Philadelphia is also a prime example of CATV activities, with the CATV applicants in Philadelphia proposing to carry the New York independents. The Philadelphia UHF stations, in competing with three network VHF stations, will be relying solely upon reaching an audience interested in independent (nonnetwork) programming. Since the local competition is not only VHF but enjoys the advantage of popular network programming, unexpected fractionalization of the audience interested in independent programming could be particularly harmful to these independent stations.¹⁷ And, the CATV will be doing just that—bringing in three New York stations which also direct their efforts to the audience interested in independent programming. The crucial question is thus whether the result will be that New York independents will, in effect, be replacing Philadelphia UHF independents, with a concomitant loss of local service or the other advantages noted in paragraph 41.

46. The Commission needs further information with respect to that question before reaching a conclusion. On the one hand, it is urged that CATV systems in Philadelphia or similar large cities will remain relatively small and do not pose any significant threat to the legislative goal noted in paragraph 41. See, e.g., Seiden report, pages 84-86. Indeed, it is urged that the CATV system will benefit the new UHF operation by bringing the UHF station's signal into homes which do not yet have all-channel receiver sets or where UHF reception might otherwise be difficult.¹⁸ There are, however, indications running counter to the claim that CATV operations will have relatively little impact. Consider, for example, the extensive nature of the CATV operations proposed in some of the large cities (in Philadelphia, we are told that a \$40 million CATV investment is contemplated). And, generally, the spirited competition for CATV franchises in major cities by well-financed groups would appear to reflect the confidence of the CATV applicants in their success.¹⁹

¹⁷ Moreover, the nonduplication time period prescribed in dockets Nos. 14895 and 1233 is geared largely to the schedule of network program distribution, on the premise that network affiliates will have a reasonable opportunity for viable operation if their popular network programming is not subject to CATV duplication. The prohibition against application 15 days before or after the local broadcast will provide only partial relief, at best, to independent stations, which rely on nonnetwork programming that is not presented simultaneously, or nearly so, nationwide.

¹⁸ We note, however, in connection with the Philadelphia example which we have been discussing above, that the franchise application of Jerold Corp. in Philadelphia does not propose to carry the Philadelphia UHF stations on the CATV system, until such time as it might convert from a 12-channel to a 20-channel system.

¹⁹ We also note, in this regard, that the Seiden report (pp. 85-86) does not consider the likelihood that the Philadelphia audience which would be attracted to the programming of the New York independent stations is the very heart of the audience at which any independent Philadelphia UHF station must aim. Instead, it is assumed that the potential Philadelphia audience for New York independent stations is like any other part of the Philadelphia audience, from the standpoint of Philadelphia independent stations. This assumption, we think, raises a question as to the correctness of the conclusion reached in the report.

47. It may be, after development and study of the facts and consideration of the arguments of interested persons, that the problem will appear less serious or take on new aspects. Or, it may be that CATV systems should not enter markets like Philadelphia for a period of 4 or 5 years—roughly the length of time remaining, when Congress specified as necessary in order to permit the substantial effects of the all-channel set law to be felt (i.e., to permit UHF independent stations to gain a proper foothold). We need further information before reaching a decision and, for that reason are initiating this inquiry. For, we do know that we would be wholly remiss in our responsibilities if we ignored the problem—and simply permitted events to occur (indeed, often with the aid of our authorizations for the microwave services) which might jeopardize the congressional goals just set, and the “investment in all-channel receivers” which the public is now making. If such goals are to be changed, that is a matter for Congress (with our task to collect the facts and make appropriate recommendations).

48. Accordingly, inquiry is warranted to determine the conditions under which CATV should be permitted to operate in areas with potential for independent stations. Such areas include not only communities with four or more commercial channel assignments but also those areas where any new station would rely very substantially upon independent programming sources because of overshadowing by this network services from nearby communities. Since we have no preconceived views as to the role of CATV in these areas or what conditions might be appropriate, comments furnishing full information as to pertinent factors and suggesting possible measures for achieving a reasonable accommodation are invited from all interested persons. As a starting point, comments are requested on the measures and proposals urged by petitioners in this respect.

49. While the proceeding is underway, we shall carefully examine applications coming before us which involve the above problem. This means that pending the outcome of this proceeding, applications for microwave facilities to be used to relay the signal of any television station to a CATV system in a community with four or more commercial channel assignments and three or more stations in operation (or with at least two stations in operation and one or more stations authorized or applied for) must be accompanied by a clear and full showing that in the particular circumstances a grant would not pose a substantial threat to the development of independent UHF service in the area. A like showing must be made in applications for microwave facilities to serve a CATV system in a community where, because of its proximity to another community (or communities) having three or more existing commercial stations (e.g., within the grade contour of such three or more commercial stations), any new UHF television station would be independent in operation.

50. The foregoing takes up the Commission's concern and course of action as to microwave applications coming before it during the

erim period while the proceeding is underway.²⁰ The same concern is applicable, whether or not the CATV proposes to employ microwave facilities, to situations where there is proposed large-scale CATV operations in major cities with burgeoning UHF independent development. Indeed, we note that the large-scale CATV operations proposed for Philadelphia do not make use of microwave facilities. We therefore request comments on what interim course of action, if any, may be appropriately followed by the Commission in this respect.²¹ Since the matter is of such short-term nature (i.e., pending resolution of the proceedings), the shorter time period for comments and reply comments applicable to part I of the notice shall govern, and we will reach an early determination (see par. 30). In order to be in a position to take definitive action, if appropriate, we specifically invite comment on whether the foregoing course of action as to applications before the Commission should be extended to the nonmicrowave CATV system in the same type of situation (e.g., through a rule which would prohibit the extension of the signal of any television station beyond its grade B contour into a community with the situation described above (par. 49), without there having been a clear and compelling showing that in the particular circumstances there is no threat to the development or maintenance of independent UHF service in the community). This is also one of the matters which we shall bring to the attention of the Congress. Finally, we believe that franchising authorities will give due regard to the fact that the matter is thus under Commission consideration.

Generalized Restrictions on CATV Extension of Station Signals

51. Both the ABC and the AMST petitions urge that more general action is necessary to prevent fractionalization of audience and potential damage to the nationwide system of television broadcasting through a multiplicity of local stations contemplated by our allocations scheme. Accordingly, they propose general limitations upon a CATV's ability to extend the service area of any station—either in terms of distance from the station or of a specified signal contour or some combination of the two.²² The issue is particularly raised whether the extension—perhaps for hundred of miles—of the service of a powerful station operating in a very large market (and thus able to devote more resources to obtaining programming) may have an especially adverse impact upon the development or maintenance of the local stations contemplated by the allocations scheme.

²⁰ We have also taken into account, in our decision to adopt this interim policy, the fact that the areas to which the policy will be applicable do have a significant amount of television service, with additional new UHF service in the offing.

²¹ Such comments may discuss the jurisdictional as well as the policy considerations in a particular course of action.

²² We note in this connection that plans are on the drawing board for a CATV system capacity of 20 channels. Interested persons may wish to address themselves to the question of what effect CATV operations of this or a similar nature might have on local stations in terms of fractionalization of audience, and whether some limitation as to the number of signals carried should be considered.

52. We have reached no conclusion that broad-scale restriction along these lines are warranted.²³ Rather, as a part of our general inquiry, we invite comments directed to the proposals.

(3) "Leapfrogging"

53. Petitioners' assertions concerning the so-called leapfrogging issue (i.e., the distribution by the CATV system of distant signals in preference to signals of stations located much closer to the system) also raise a matter of future importance. Again we have reached no conclusion on this issue and would simply have the interested parties address themselves to it, both as to the facts and to pertinent policy considerations (and also the proposals which have been advanced by parties such as AMST in this respect). Thus, does it promote "the larger and more effective use of radio in the public interest" (see, 38 (g)), if the closer signals are carried (on the ground that carrying of such signals would bring a programming service more likely to conform closer to meeting the CATV community's interests than those from a distant state)? Is such carriage called for in the public interest in order to extend the service area of UHF stations or VHF stations serving sparsely populated areas—and thus enhance, to some extent, their chances of successful operation and their ability to serve fully the needs and interests of these areas?²⁴ If a policy along the foregoing lines were to be adopted, should it be accompanied by a concomitant duty, on the part of the station carried, to provide some amount of programming of particular interest to the people in the CATV's community? Cf. *Petersburg Television Corp.*, 10 Pike and Fischer, R.R. 567, 581j—584q; *NTA*, 22 Pike and Fischer, R.R. 27, 295. What kinds of disruption or other problems would such a requirement pose for CATV systems? If "leapfrogging" rules were adopted, is there a probability that the CATV, in order to meet the rules and still bring in desired distant signals, may distribute so many signals that the fractionalization of the audience aspect becomes much more serious (in the event there are local stations being carried pursuant to the requirements of the rules adopted in dockets No. 14895 and 15233)? These questions by no means exhaust the list of pertinent considerations to which we hope the interested parties will address themselves.²⁵

(4) *Program Origination or Alteration by CATV; Pay-TV or Combined CATV-Pay-TV Operations*

54. A fourth area of concern is the question of program origination or alteration by CATV. There was some indication in dockets No.

²³ Certainly, we have not concluded that there should be restrictions which might prevent areas now without the benefit of the basic services of the three national networks from ever obtaining those benefits. But here we note that AMST would appear to have exceptions to the general restrictions it proposes where a CATV makes a showing of public need for its service.

²⁴ In this connection, we note our discussion in the report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, par. 69, as to increased awareness by rating services and advertisers of CATV penetration and CATV extension of a station's service.

²⁵ We do not believe it necessary or appropriate, pending resolution of this issue, to hold up all applications for microwave facilities to relay television signals to CATV systems. Rather, parties may bring public interest considerations pertinent to this issue to our attention in connection with specific applications, and we ourselves shall examine such applications with this issue in mind.

4895 and 15233 that CATV systems may be originating advertising material in some instances and deleting advertising from the station signals carried. We believe that inquiry is appropriate to determine whether CATV systems should be subject to the provisions of sections 315 and 317 of the Communications Act and to a requirement that there be no deletion of the station identification announcement of any signals carried.

55. A related question is presented by the assertion of some of the petitioners that CATV might become a vehicle of pay-TV or combined CATV-pay-TV operations. They express a fear that the end result of such operations might be to siphon off top attractions from free television, if the fees obtained from large-scale CATV operations would enable CATV operators to outbid television broadcast stations in the program supply market, or that it might prove to be the means of gradual transition from advertiser-supported free television to pay-TV generally. It is further urged that CATV systems should not be permitted to use the distribution of free television signals as a base for engaging in pay-TV operations. We have been advised of at least one instance where a CATV system has devoted a channel on the cable exclusively to the presentation of its own programming (both CATV originated local programs and films acquired from others).

56. The possible impact of subscription television on free television broadcast service has been a continuing subject of Commission and congressional concern. See *Third Report on Subscription Television*, 3 F.C.C. 265; *Connecticut Committee Against Pay TV v. Federal Communications Commission*, 301 F. 2d 835 (C.A.D.C.), cert. den. 311 U.S. 816. In light of that concern, comments are requested on the feasibility or desirability of pay-TV operations by CATV, whether any conditions would be required for the protection of the public interest in free television, and what conditions might be appropriate.²⁸

57. In short, comments are requested as to whether CATV systems should be limited to simultaneous distribution of station signals without additions or deletions, or whether there should be no limitation on program origination by the CATV, or whether some intermediate position would be appropriate. The Commission has reached no conclusions in this area, and requests comments on all facets of the question. For example, in addition to the two basic issues posed above (i.e., complete restriction or complete freedom as to program origination), there are intermediate issues where comment might be helpful. Thus, comments are invited on the question of whether any such prohibition against CATV program and advertising origination should apply only where the CATV is operating in an area served by one or more television broadcast stations. In the absence of any local station, would the public interest be served if the CATV were not only permitted, but even encouraged, to serve the community by providing an outlet for local self-expression? Where there is but one local station, should the CATV be barred from carrying advertis-

²⁸ This proceeding is in no way intended to be concerned with, or to affect, the question of whether there is a property right in the broadcast signals carried by CATV systems (see FCC 65 —, par. 159).

1 F.C.C. 2d

ing but permitted and encouraged to present local programming, particularly in the news and public affairs field (on the ground that such local programming provides a needed diversity in a monopoly situation, and poses no threat to the viability of the local station)?

58. Some of the foregoing matters may be appropriate for Commission rulemaking (e.g., the sec. 315, sec. 317, or station identification requirements), while others may call for congressional consideration and resolution. Again, we think that as a matter of "first things first," we should garner the facts and pertinent considerations.

(5) *Other Areas of Concern*

59. In view of the interest engendered concerning ownership and control of CATV systems, comments are requested on the proposals of petitioners with respect to the regular filing of information as to CATV ownership, control, and management (see particularly the Boise and AMST petitions). Would it be appropriate to require the periodic filing of other information, such as the location of the CATV system, the number of subscribers, the signals carried, and the extent of program origination, if any? While much useful information was gathered in connection with dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, the statistics will soon be out of date in a rapidly changing CATV field. Moreover, the questionnaire discussed in paragraph 34 above was occasioned by a lack of specific information with respect to each CATV system. It appears to us that it might be more efficient and serve the convenience of interested persons, as well as the Commission, if pertinent information were regularly supplied by each CATV operator on a current basis.

60. The general matter of cross-ownership of CATV systems and broadcast facilities is being pursued separately in docket No. 151. Interested persons are nevertheless invited to address themselves in this proceeding to those aspects of the cross-ownership question which may be pertinent to the overall policy questions raised here. For example, there is the question of whether grants for translator facilities or local stations should be made to CATV systems in communities which have no off-the-air television service where there is no imminent likelihood of an independent applicant. In other words, would the public interest be served by permitting, or even encouraging, CATV systems to provide an off-the-air service to areas which would otherwise have none? Should a similar policy be followed to provide a second off-the-air service, or would cross-ownership afford the CATV licensee an unfair competitive advantage over the independent licensee? (see FCC 65-335, pars. 91, 134).

61. Another area of great interest to the Commission is the proposal in Dr. Seiden's report that rulemaking action should be taken to afford potential and existing stations a sufficiently large service area to withstand CATV penetration. This proposal is set out in detail at pages 7, 89-90 of the report and will not, therefore, be repeated here. Comments are requested as to the feasibility and merits of the proposal and the most appropriate way of implementing it.

fore generally, we are of the opinion that all of our rules and policies should be reexamined to see if they are holding back or encouraging variety of off-the-air services. In this connection, there is pending proposal to facilitate the use of translators on allocated channels FCC 65-129, docket No. 15858).

62. Some of the petitioners have urged the Commission to establish appropriate technical standards to govern the operation of CATV systems, e.g., with respect to the technical quality of signals distributed by CATV. It appears to us that the matter of technical standards warrants inquiry. As a starting point, comments are requested on the proposals of petitioners (see RM-636 filed by Springfield, p. 6, ¶ 6 above, and the proposal of AMST, p. 12, par. 25(1) above).

63. The foregoing discussion has been directed toward CATV operations vis-a-vis television broadcast facilities. It has been brought to our attention that a standard broadcast or FM radio station might pose serious audience fractionalization if a CATV system were to bring a number of competing aural signals to its subscribers. Accordingly, comments are requested as to whether any serious problem exists, or is likely to exist, in this area and, if so, the nature of any regulatory measures which might be appropriate to govern the distribution of aural signals by CATV.

64. In sum, inquiry to ascertain the facts and appropriate policies in each of these areas is warranted in the public interest. Nor do we mean to restrict comments just to the above areas. Persons may, of course, point up other facets of this overall problem where remedial action may be appropriate (e.g., whether our policies with respect to other auxiliary services, such as translators or satellites, should be modified). The information developed might be useful to the legislative consideration of CATV and would assist the Commission in making recommendations to the Congress. Moreover, a sufficient basis has been shown to establish that additional rules may be required for adequate protection of the public interest and the regulatory scheme. In the absence of further information, we do not have a sound basis for specific rule proposals. However, in order to be in a position to take any rulemaking action found appropriate at the conclusion of this proceeding, without conducting new proceedings, comments are requested on the proposals of petitioners and the additional matters indicated above. Counterproposals as to possible alternative measures are also invited. We stress, however, that the main thrust of this proceeding is to gather the facts and to obtain the comments of the parties on the pertinent policy considerations. A further notice will at all likelihood be issued to afford an opportunity for comment on the specific rule proposals of the Commission.

65. The inquiry and proposed rulemaking are directed toward all CATV systems. The questions raised by petitioners or indicated by the Commission are pertinent to our responsibilities in licensing microwave facilities for CATV use, whether or not rules governing all CATV systems are ultimately adopted. Consideration of nonmicro-

wave CATV systems is included in order to conserve time and to avoid the necessity for a second proceeding, particularly in the event that no legislation is forthcoming and the comments in this proceeding confirm our initial conclusion that the Commission has present jurisdiction over all CATV systems. Moreover, we believe it appropriate as requested by one of petitioners, to put all persons who now operate or who propose to operate CATV systems on notice that CATV operations may be subject to Commission regulation of the nature indicated, whether microwave is used or not. All Commission action taken during the pendency of this proceeding will, of course, be subject to the outcome of the proceeding and any rules adopted will be made appropriately applicable, such as at license renewal time.

66. Accordingly, there is instituted herewith, pursuant to the provisions of section 403 of the Communications Act, an inquiry into the foregoing matters. Authority for the rulemaking proceeding instituted herein is contained in sections 2, 3, 4(i), 303, 307, 308, 309, 310, 315, and 317 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

67. All interested persons are invited to file written comments on the rule amendments proposed in part I, and on paragraph 50, on or before June 25, 1965, and reply comments on or before July 26, 1965. Comments on the inquiry and proposed rulemaking in part II may be filed on or before August 27, 1965, with reply comments due on or before October 25, 1965. In reaching its decision in this matter, the Commission may also take into account any other relevant information before it, in addition to the comments invited by this notice.

68. After study of the comments, the Commission may, by subsequent order, specify a number of days for the presentation of oral argument on these important matters. It is also contemplated that oral testimony may be solicited, and appropriate orders specifying the nature and time may be issued at a later date. After comments have been received, the Commission may well spin-off portions of the rulemaking for early decision, since other portions may require lengthy consideration.

69. In accordance with the provisions of section 1.419 of the Commission's rules and regulations, an original and 15 copies of all comments, replies, pleadings, briefs, or other documents filed in this proceeding shall be furnished the Commission.

70. In light of the foregoing, *It is ordered*. That the various requests made in the pleadings filed by American Broadcasting Co., Springfield Television Broadcasting Corp., Boise Valley Broadcasters, Inc., Westinghouse Broadcasting Co., Inc., Association of Maximum Service Telecasters, Inc., Capital Cities Broadcasting Corp., Taft Broadcasting Co., and National Community Television Association, Inc., *Are granted in part*, to the extent reflected in this notice, and *Are otherwise denied*.

1 F.C.C. 2d

APPENDIX A

MARKETS WITH NO COMMERCIAL UHF STATION ON AIR BUT WITH COMMERCIAL UHF CONSTRUCTION PERMITS GRANTED AND/OR COMMERCIAL UHF CHANNELS APPLIED FOR

	Commercial VHF sta- tions on air	Commercial UHF con- struction permits	Commercial UHF chan- nels applied for	Vacant com- mercial UHF channels
Atlanta, Ga.	3	1		
Austin, Tex.	1	1 ²		
Austin-Rochester, Minn.-Mason City, Iowa	3		1	2
Baltimore, Md.	3	1		
Birmingham, Ala.	2	1	1	
Charlotte, N.C.	2	1 ¹		
Charleston-Huntington, W. Va.	3	1		
Cincinnati, Ohio	3	1		
Cleveland, Ohio	3		2	
Columbus, Ohio	3		1	
Dallas-Fort Worth, Tex.	4		2	1
Detroit, Mich.	3	1 ²	1	
Eugene, Oreg.	2			
Houston-Galveston, Tex.	3	1	3	1
Indianapolis-Bloomington, Ind.	4		1	2
Knoxville, Fla.	2	1	1	
Lincoln, Mo.-Pittsburg, Kans.	2		1	2
Las Vegas City, Mo.	3		2	
Lubbock, Tex.	2		2	
Memphis, Tenn.	1	1		
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, Fla.	3	2 ²	1	
Midland, Tex.	1	1		
Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.	4		1	
New Orleans, La.	3	1	1	2
New York-Fort Smith-Newport News, Va.	3	1		
Oklahoma City, Okla.	3	1		
Philadelphia, Pa.	3	3		
Pittsburgh, Pa.	3	2		
Providence, R.I.	2	1		
St. Louis, Mo.	4	1		1
San Diego, Calif.	2	1	1	
San Francisco-Oakland, Calif.	4	3	1	1
San Jose-Salinas-Monterey, Calif.	2	1		1
Seattle, Wash.	2	1		
Shreveport, La.	3	1		1
St. Paul, Minn.	2	1	1	1
Total	96	34	25	17

¹ A permittee has gone on the air since Jan. 1, 1965.

² There is also a C.P. for a commercial VHF station.

APPENDIX B

COMMISSION'S MEMORANDUM ON ITS JURISDICTION AND AUTHORITY

Section 1 of the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. 151) states that the purpose of the act is the regulation of interstate and foreign commerce in communication by wire and radio, and that to efficiently achieve this purpose, authority over such commerce is centralized in the Commission. Section 2 (47 U.S.C. 152) states that the "provisions of this Act" shall apply to "all interstate communication by wire or radio * * * and to all persons engaged within the United States in such communication * * *." These terms are defined in section 3 of the Act. Section 3(a) defines wire communication as the "transmission of * * * pictures, and sounds of all kinds by aid of wire, cable, or other like connection between the points of origin and reception of such transmission, including all instrumentalities, facilities, apparatus and services (among other things, the receipt, forwarding, and delivery of communications) incidental to such transmission." Section 3(b) defines communication by radio as the "transmission of * * * pictures, and sounds of all kinds, including all instrumentalities, facilities, apparatus, and services (among other things, the receipt, forwarding, and delivery of communications) incidental to such transmission." From the plain language of these definitions, there would seem to be no question but that CATV systems are engaged in interstate communications by

wire or radio. They transmit "pictures, and sounds * * * by aid of wire" are "instrumentalities * * * [used for] * * * the receipt, forwarding, and delivery of communications * * * incidental to such transmission," and hence within the definition of wire communication under section 3(a).¹ Moreover, CATV systems constitute interstate communication by wire, since they form a connecting link in the chain of communication between the point of origin (the transmitting station) and reception by the viewing public (the CATV subscriber)—a chain which "is now well established * * * as interstate communication." *Capital City Telephone Co.*, 3 FCC 189, 193 (citing *Federal Reserve Commission v. Nelson Bros. Bond & Mortgage Co.*, 289 U.S. 266).² The law is clear that the mere location of communication facilities wholly within one State does not establish that the communication service rendered over such facilities is an intrastate service, and that a communications service can be interstate in nature and subject to the Commission's jurisdiction even though the facilities are located within the confines of one State. *California Intercontinental Telephone Company v. F.C.C.*, 328 F. 2d 556 (C.A.D.C.); *Ward v. Northern California Telephone Co.*, 300 F. 2d 816 (C.A. 6), *cert. den.* 371 U.S. 820; *Pacific Telatronics Inc.*, FCC 64-1180, 4 R.R. 2d 145 (1964). CATV systems are extensions of an interstate service of the television broadcast stations whose signals they carry. *Clarksburg Publishing Co. v. F.C.C.*, 225 F. 2d 511, 517 (C.A.D.C.), and hence constitute "interstate communication by wire" to which the provisions of the act are applicable (sec. 2(a), 3(a)). See *American Trucking Association v. United States*, 344 U.S. 298, 311.³

With respect to the Commission's authority to adopt the rules proposed in the notice of inquiry and proposed rulemaking, i.e., the "provisions of [the] act that are to be applied to CATV systems, there are the following sections: Sections 1, 4(i), 303 (f), (h), (p), and (r), 307(b), 315, 317, and 508. But the crucial sections would appear to be 1, 307(b), 4(i), and 303 (f), (h), and (r). As the notice and the report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 make clear, the existence and growth of CATV systems threaten to impede realization of the Commission's television assignment plan and policies under sections 1 and 307 (i.e., the sixth report and order).⁴ See *Carter Mountain Transmission Corp. v. F.C.C.*, 321 F. 2d 359 (C.A.D.C.), *cert. den.* 375 U.S. 951 (1963). The Commission has authority under sections 4(i), 303(f), 303(h), and 303(r) to:

- perform any and all acts, make such rules and regulations and issue such orders, not inconsistent with this act, as may be necessary in the execution of its functions (1(i));
- make such regulations not inconsistent with law as it may deem necessary to prevent interference between stations and to carry out the provisions of this act * * * (303(f));
- establish areas or zones to be served by any station (303(h)); make such rules and regulations and prescribe such restrictions and conditions, not inconsistent with law, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this act * * * (303(r)).⁵

¹ It can be argued that CATV systems, in receiving, forwarding, and delivering a station's signal to the viewing public, are the instrumentalities incidental to the transmission of the signal and hence fall within the definition of "communication by radio" under sec. 3(b). However, it is unnecessary to consider this argument in view of the discussion above as to sec. 3(a) and the scope of the Commission's proposals. Since CATV operations clearly fall within sec. 3(a) and/or sec. 3(b), a determination of their precise status is not essential to the question of the Commission's jurisdiction to proceed as proposed in the notice of inquiry and proposed rulemaking.

² Congressional approval of the *Capital City* doctrine was expressed in connection with the 1960 amendment to sec. 202(b). See 105 Cong. Rec. at 6256.

³ It is, we believe, significant that in sustaining the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission in *American Trucking* the Supreme Court relied solely upon provisions of the Motor Carrier Act that are, in the circumstances, analogous to secs. 2 and 3 of the Communications Act. Compare 49 U.S.C. 302(a) and 303(a)(19) with 47 U.S.C. 303(a) and 153 (a) and (b).

⁴ In addition, as noted in the notice, there exists the potential to frustrate the purpose of the act embodied in secs. 303(p), 310, 315, 317, and 508 (and certain Communications regulations).

⁵ Sec. 303 (f), (h), and (r) are preceded by the following clause:

"Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the Commission from time to time, as public convenience, interest, or necessity requires shall—"

The foregoing provisions (4(i), 303(f), 303(h), and 303(r)) give the Commission broad rulemaking authority to carry out the provisions of this act (e.g., secs. 1 and 307(b)) with respect to communications or persons coming within the Commission's jurisdiction (including CATV—sec. 2(a)). Section 3(h), in particular, was affirmatively designed to assist the Commission in effectuating the fair and equitable distribution of broadcast service called for in section 307(b).⁶ The Commission's authority to issue rules establishing the area or zone to be served by any station for this purpose includes the power to prevent infringement of the rules by "any person" (secs. 312(b) and 502 of the Communications Act). Hence, it clearly encompasses, we believe, the authority to prescribe by rule the conditions under which the station's signal may be extended beyond the area or zone to be served by the originating station, by means of CATV—an "interstate communication by wire" to which the act's provisions are applicable (secs. 2(a) and 3(a)).

Moreover, apart from section 303(h), the general rulemaking power of the Commission (secs. 4(i) and 303(r)) includes authority to take necessary action, inconsistent with the act or law, to prevent frustration of section 307(b) by CATV. In *National Broadcasting Co. v. U.S.*, 319 U.S. 190, 215-220, the Supreme Court citing, inter alia, sections 1, 303(f), and 303(r), stated that:

The avowed aim of the Communications Act of 1934 was to secure the maximum benefits of radio to all people of the United States. To that end Congress endowed the Communications Commission with comprehensive powers to promote and realize the vast potentialities of radio * * *. In the context of the developing problems to which it was directed, the Act gave the Commission not niggardly but expansive powers.

Under such "expansive" and "comprehensive" powers,⁷ the Commission has authority to take reasonable and appropriate action, including promulgation of rules, "as may be necessary" to carry out the provisions of section 307(b)—to ensure that the regulatory scheme embodied in that section (the equitable distribution of service) and section 303 is not frustrated by the operation of CATV, an "interstate communication by wire" to which the act's provisions are applicable. This authority does not depend on a specific reference to CATV or to TV practices in the act. *United States v. Storer Broadcasting Co.*, 351 U.S. 203, 203. See also, *National Broadcasting Co. v. United States*, 319 U.S. 190, 219-219, where the Supreme Court stated:

True enough, the Act does not explicitly say that the Commission shall have power to deal with network practices found inimical to the public interest. But Congress was acting in a field of regulation which was both new and dynamic * * *. While Congress did not give the Commission unfettered discretion to regulate all phases of the radio industry, it did not frustrate the purpose for which the Communications Act of 1934 was brought into being by attempting an itemized catalogue of the specific manifestations of the general problems for the solution of which it was establishing a regulatory agency. That would have stereotyped the powers of the Commission to specific details in regulating a field of enterprise the dominant characteristic of which was the rapid pace of its unfolding. And so Congress did what experience had taught it in similar attempts at regulation, even in fields far less fluid and dynamic than radio. The essence of that experience was to define broad areas for regulation and to establish standards

⁶ Sec. 303(h) was copied from the Radio Act of 1927 and originated in preceding bills to amend the Radio Act of 1912. For the legislative intent, see hearings on H.R. 5589 before the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, 69th Cong., 1st Sess., pp. 40-41.

⁷ See also, *Stahlman v. F.C.C.*, 126 F. 2d 124, 128 (C.A.D.C.). For the intended comprehensive scope of Commission authority see, e.g., the following legislative history of the Radio Act of 1927, which was reenacted in all substantial respects in the Communications Act of 1934 (78 Cong. Rec. 8822-23, 10313-14, 10990): 66 Cong. Rec. 5479; S. Rep. 772, 70th Cong., 1st Sess., pp. 2-3.

⁸ F.C.C. 2d

for judgment adequately related in their application to the problems to be solved.⁸

To the same effect in other fields, see *Houston, East and West Texas Railway Co. v. U.S.*, 234 U.S. 342; *U.S. v. Wrightwood Dairy Co.*, 315 U.S. 110; *U.S. v. Pennsylvania R. Co.*, 323 U.S. 612; *American Trucking Assoc. v. U.S.*, 344 U.S. 298; *Public Service Commission of State of New York v. Federal Power Commission*, 327 F. 2d 893, 897 (C.A.D.C.).⁹

The *American Trucking* case is particularly pertinent. The Supreme Court there sustained ICC rules "aimed at conditions [trip-leasing] which may directly frustrate the success of the regulation undertaken by Congress." After citing sections analogous to section 307(b) in our situation, the Court stated 14 U.S. at 311):

Included in the Act as a duty of the Commission is that "to administer, execute, and enforce all provisions of this part, to make all necessary orders in connection therewith, and to prescribe rules, regulation, and procedure for such administration." And this necessary rule-making power, coterminous with the scope of agency regulation itself, must extend to the transportation of passengers or property by motor carriers engaged in interstate or foreign commerce and to the procurement of and the provision of facilities for such transportation" regulation of which is vested in the Commission by 202(a). See also 203(a) (19).

We point out that section 201(a) (6) of the Motor Carrier Act is substantially similar to sections 303(r) and 4(i) of the Communications Act: while in the circumstances, sections 202(a) and 203(a) (19) of that act are closely analogous to sections 2(b) and 3(a) of the act. Further, the Court reached its conclusion "despite the absence of specific reference to leasing practices in the Act," stating (at pp. 309-310):

Our function, however, does not stop with a section-by-section search for the phrase "regulation of leasing practices" among the literal words of the statutory provisions. As a matter of principle, we might agree with appellants' contentions if we thought it a reasonable canon of interpretation that the draft-men of acts delegating agency powers, as a practical and realistic matter, can or do include specific consideration of every detail sought to be corrected. But no great acquaintance with practical affairs is required to know that such prescience either in fact or in the mind of Congress, does not exist. *National Broadcasting Co. v. United States*, 319 U.S. 190, 219-220; * * * Its very absence, moreover, is precisely one of the reasons why regulatory agencies such as the Commission are created. * *

See, also, *Public Service Comm. of N.Y. v. FPC*, 327 F. 2d 893, 896-97 (C.A.D.C.).

Of course, the rules must be "reasonably necessary and fairly appropriate for the protection of the regulatory scheme. *Colorado Interstate Gas Co. v. Federal Power Commission*, 142 F. 2d 913, 952 (C.A. 10). See also, *American Trucking Assn. v. U.S.*, 344 U.S., at 314-315; *National Broadcasting Co.*

⁸ The Court, in referring to provisions of the act such as secs. 303 (g) and (r), stated (319 U.S. at 217-218):

"These provisions, individually and in the aggregate, preclude the notion that the Commission is empowered to deal only with technical and engineering impediments to the larger and more effective use of radio in the public interest." We cannot find in the act any such restriction of the Commission's authority. Suppose, for example, that a community can, because of physical limitations, be assigned only two stations. That community might be deprived of effective service in any one of several ways. More powerful stations in nearby cities might blanket out the signals of the local stations so that they could not be heard at all. One station might dominate the other with the power of signal. But the community could be deprived of good radio service in ways less obvious. One man, financially and technically qualified, might apply for and obtain the licenses for both stations and present a single service over the two stations, thus wasting a frequency otherwise available to the area. The language of the Act does not withdraw such a situation from the licensing and regulatory powers of the Commission, and there is no evidence that Congress did not mean its broad language to carry the authority it expressed.

⁹ The *Public Service Commission* case sustained the power of the Federal Power Commission to issue temporary certificates to protect producers, although sec. 7(c) of the Federal Power Act expressly authorized such action only to protect customers, on the basis of the broad provisions of sec. 16 of that act which are virtually the same as sec. 303 of the Communications Act. The Court stated (327 F. 2d at 897): "All authority of the Commission need not be found in explicit language. Section 16 demonstrates a realization by Congress that the Commission would be confronted with unforeseen problems in administration in regulating this huge industry and should have a basis for coping with such confrontation."

319 U.S. at 219 ("Generalities unrelated to the living problems of radio communication cannot justify exercises of power by the Commission").¹⁰ The record and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 demonstrates the appropriateness and necessity of rules requiring all CATV's to carry local stations without duplication for a reasonable period. Moreover, the *Carter Mountain* decision establishes the reasonableness of the requirements. In affirming the decision, the Court stated that "this does not appear to us an unreasonable burden" but rather "a legitimate measure of protection for the local station in the public interest" (321 F. 2d 359, at 363-364). The notice of inquiry and proposed rulemaking similarly demonstrates the validity of the Commission's action as to the effect of CATV on independent stations and programming sources, as well as on the development of UHF in the larger markets. In conclusion, it would appear that under the broad regulatory powers vested in the Commission by the Communications Act, the Commission presently has jurisdiction over all CATV systems, whether microwave is used or not; that there are no alternative provisions of the act applicable to the exercise of authority over such systems (in particular, secs. 1, 4(i), 303(f), 303(h), 303(r), 307(b), and 403); and that the proposed rules and inquiry represent a reasonable exercise of that authority in the circumstances.

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER ROBERT T. BARTLEY CONCURRING IN PART
AND DISSENTING IN PART

I concur in the notices to the extent that they seek data for resolution of the matters here before us, but dissent to the indication of present authority over CATV.

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER LOEVINGER CONCURRING IN PART AND DISSENTING
IN PART IN DOCKETS NOS. 14895, 15233, AND 15971

(Proceedings re CATV's)

* * * * *

The Commission is issuing today a report and order, a notice of inquiry and of proposed rulemaking, a memorandum on jurisdiction, and the text of new rules all of which relate to the problems posed by community antenna television systems, commonly referred to as CATV's. These documents aggregate over 120 pages and set forth a mass of detail that the outlines of the problem, as well as the issues, are somewhat obscured, if not wholly submerged. Accordingly, it seems worthwhile to restate very briefly and simply what the problems and the issues are, in order to indicate my points of agreement and disagreement with the majority.

CATV is a system comprising an antenna for receiving television signals, and cables and auxiliary apparatus (such as amplifiers) for carrying the signals received into a number of receiving sets. CATV's are about as old as commercial television itself, the first systems having started as early as 1950. CATV's have been developed in order to meet the wants of those who either because of distance or terrain were

The Commission clearly has no jurisdiction over bowling alleys or theaters, for example, as an administrative agency has no greater power than has been conferred by Congress. *Stark v. Wickard*, 321 U.S. 288; *NLRB v. Atlantic Metallic Casket Co.*, 205 F. 2d 24, 50. Cf. *Peters v. Hobby*, 349 U.S. 331. However, unlike bowling alleys and theaters, CATV systems intercept and extend the signals of television stations, and thus have a uniquely close relationship to the regulatory scheme. Moreover, CATV systems are used in interstate communication by wire to which the act's provisions are expressly applicable.

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unable to get television signals off the air in satisfactory quality numbers. (See articles in *Television Magazine*, June 1962, September 1964, and April 1965.)

For a variety of reasons, some of them related to actions of the FCC, the commercial CATV business has developed through independent companies which transmit or relay the signals and other companies which distribute the signals to subscribers. Typically there will be an antenna on some high point near a community which receives signals of a number of TV stations. These signals will be transmitted either by microwave relay or by coaxial cable to a point in the settled part of the community. At this point the relay company will deliver the signals to the CATV operating company. The latter will maintain and operate the system which distributes the signals over wires to the homes of subscribers within the community. In some cases the relay company will deliver signals to several CATV companies.

CATV's were started in mountainous areas of Pennsylvania and Oregon where television reception was either poor or nonexistent in many communities. As it appeared that CATV's were able to bring good reception and offer a variety of services to communities far outside the major metropolitan centers, the companies spread to more communities and got more subscribers. Over the years, as television has grown in both numbers of broadcasting stations and numbers of homes, CATV has also grown, although by no means in proportion. In recent figures there are now about 566 television stations in the United States covering some 266 markets. (*Television Magazine*, April 1965, p. 8) Over 52 million U.S. households have television receivers, which is 85 percent of all of the U.S. households. (*Ibid.*) The CATV industry today has about 1,300 operating systems serving about 1.2 million homes. (Seiden report to the FCC, p. 1.) CATV's are concentrated largely in one- or two-station markets. Most systems are fairly small in size, about 90 percent having fewer than 3,000 subscribers, and an average having about 655 subscribers. Most CATV's deliver signals to their subscribers, although some deliver as few as three and some as many as seven or more. (*Ibid.*) However, the number and size of CATV's is growing and CATV systems are being offered to more communities, and to larger communities.

The proliferation of CATV's is regarded by many in the television business as an economic threat. It is said that while the broadcaster has the burden and expense of providing programming which the audience gets without payment and which must be supported by advertising, the CATV operator simply delivers the broadcasters' programming to subscribers and receives payment from them. This is said to constitute unfair competition. It is also alleged that the competition is not only unfair but destructive in some situations, because CATV's deliver the signals of far-distant stations and deliver a relatively large number of signals to relatively small communities in which the audience is not large enough to support a number of stations. CATV's create the anomaly that some relatively small towns are provided with a greater choice of television programming over the local CATV than many larger cities have in the absence of CATV.

These circumstances have created a demand by many broadcasters for the FCC to take jurisdiction over CATV's and to institute measures to protect television broadcasters against competition of CATV's. As will be pointed out in some detail below, the FCC has instituted several proceedings and investigations relating to this matter. However, heretofore it has not taken any definitive action of general significance. While there has been some question as to the extent of the FCC jurisdiction, the Commission has had undisputed jurisdiction with respect to licensing microwave transmitting facilities for those relay companies that carry TV signals by microwave. The manner of exercising that jurisdiction is one of the matters that has been bitterly disputed and that is involved in the present proceedings.

By the documents which the Commission is now promulgating it adopts a series of measures which represent the conclusion of the Commission majority as to the action that the Commission should take in this field. There are four significant measures involved.

First, the Commission rules that CATV's must carry the signals of all local television stations without material degradation. The Commission exercises power over the CATV's by requiring licensed microwave relay companies to require their customers to comply with Commission conditions.

Second, the Commission rules that the relay companies must require CATV's which they serve to avoid the delivery to their customers of the television signals of any program which duplicates the program of any local station. This rule of nonduplication does not refer merely to simultaneous duplication, but requires CATV's to avoid presenting a duplicate program either 15 days before or 15 days after the date of broadcast by a local station. Thus, this rule provides that the CATV's served by the relay companies subject to the rule must avoid duplication of any local TV program for a period of 30 days.

Third, the Commission asserts jurisdiction over all CATV relay companies and systems, including those that are wholly intrastate and that transmit signals entirely by wire. Although this conclusion is called "tentative," the background demonstrates that there is no practical possibility of dissuading the Commission from this conclusion. The Commission gives notice that the substantive measures already adopted will be extended to the full limits of this asserted jurisdiction as soon as the procedural amenities can be completed.

Fourth, the Commission institutes an "inquiry" seeking further comment on more than a dozen and a half questions, all of them relating to the possibility of imposing further restrictions upon the operations of CATV's.

It seems to me that in its approach to the CATV problem the Commission is doing the wrong thing for the wrong reason in the wrong manner to deal with the wrong problem. It is thereby erecting only a glass wall barrier against the evils which it fears.

The Commission is doing the wrong thing when it seeks to control, directly or indirectly, the specific programs which shall be presented to the audience. The Commission is acting for the wrong reason because it seeks only to limit competition. The Commission is proceeding in the wrong manner because it is acting to extend its juris-

diction beyond statutory language and contrary to precedent. Commission is dealing with the wrong problem because it concentrates attention only on the single matter of competition for listener attention and substantially disregards more important and more basic problems. Finally, the Commission is erecting only a gossamer barrier against feared evils because the actions taken and proposed are not only wrong but must ultimately prove to be ineffective. Assuming that the Commission will assert jurisdiction over all CATV companies, it will impose nonduplication rules, and disregarding the risk that this action will be set aside for lack of jurisdiction, at best these rules will give slight and marginal protection against competition, and at worst they will be wholly overturned on the whim of some future Commissioner. This is not a sound basis on which to build an industry.

Basically I concur in two of the four rulings made by the Commission today and dissent from two of the four. I agree that the Commission should, within the scope of its jurisdiction, require CATV carriage of local television stations without degradation, and that it should implement the rule so as to insure its effectiveness. I have no disagreement with the substance of the rules regarding carriage of local stations. I also agree that the Commission should undertake an inquiry into the role and scope of CATV's, although I have some reservations as to the inquiry now initiated by the Commission. I disagree with the nonduplication rule which I believe is an improper attempt to limit competition by controlling programming; and I agree with the Commission's attempt to extend its jurisdiction within congressional authorization.

While I heartily agree that the Commission should conduct a sweeping inquiry into the role and scope of CATV's in the field of mass communications, it seems to me that the present inquiry is too limited and too late. It is too little because it does not deal with fundamental issues. Many of the important issues in the field are mentioned in the course of inquiry, but they are scattered through the somewhat diffuse discussion in random fashion, even occurring in footnotes. But the basic issues are not mentioned. These are what the function of CATV's should be, and what ultimate mode and system can be developed or encouraged to provide the greatest service to the greatest number. In various paragraphs of the instant orders and opinions, CATV's are discussed as being ancillary or subsidiary facilities to broadcasting and as being a service competitive with broadcasting. These concepts seem inconsistent to me, and differing regulatory consequences flow from them. For example, if the services are truly competitive, then there is some reason to prohibit or discourage joint ownership of broadcasting facilities and CATV's. On the other hand, if the services are ancillary, then that reason does not exist, and broadcasters should be permitted, and perhaps encouraged, to own CATV's. At the present time the Commission is deferring action on a large number of broadcast license renewals because the licensees own CATV facilities. This action seems inconsistent with some of the positions adopted in these proceedings.

In any event, the present inquiry is too late because the Commission has already formed its opinion on this subject. I believe the Com-

Commission should make its investigation and conduct its inquiry before reaching its conclusions, rather than afterwards. The documents filed today plainly show that the Commission and its staff have long and fixed views regarding the subordinate place of CATV's in the mass communications system, and these views are not likely to be much influenced by anything that can be presented to the Commission in the course of the inquiry. Even if some Commissioners hold other views, it would seem to me to be more courteous, more productive, and more wise to refrain from officially promulgating them until the final "inquiry" has been completed.

In any event, I cannot agree that it is proper for the FCC to determine, either directly or indirectly, which programs shall be carried by a CATV system. It seems to me that the basic issue is whether the Commission should employ economic and engineering principles in order to achieve economic and engineering objectives, or should exert direct control over the substance of programming in an effort to achieve its objectives. The method of selective program control, which the majority adopts here, will beget future problems and more control. Problems will arise because of delay, changes in plans for broadcasting of particular programs, the requirements of section 315 and "fairness," and section 317, and other provisions, to pose only a few examples that can readily be foreseen of the numerous problems likely to arise under this rule. Suppose that a local station advises a CATV that the latter cannot carry some program because the station does not want to carry it, and then the station, for whatever reason, does not carry the program? As a practical matter, the CATV will not have another opportunity to carry the program once the date of its broadcast has passed. Will the FCC then require the local station to carry this program? Will that depend upon the Commission's determination of the value of the particular program? We know from experience that documentary and political programs are those most likely to be delayed or omitted. Will the Commission permit these programs to be taken off the CATV at the whim of the local station owner without insuring that he does carry them? It seems unlikely to me that the majority will be willing to do this. However, I doubt that those broadcasters who now clamor for a Commission rule on non-duplication will welcome this new grounds for Commission regulation of their programming.

Even more provocative questions are posed with respect to political programming. Suppose a distant station, carried on a local CATV, is carrying a series of political programs on a presidential election which is balanced as between the major parties. A local station decides to carry those network programs presenting the views of one of the two major parties. It notifies the CATV which then blanks out these programs on its circuits. The local station will then have to balance out its own programming by presenting the views of the other major party over its broadcasting facilities. But the programs from the distant station carried on the local CATV will be unbalanced because they will present only the programs presenting the views of one party. Most important, the local public will then have an unbalanced presentation since it will have the programs favoring one party pre-

sented over two stations on the local system, whereas the program favoring the other party will be presented over only one of the local channels and there will be only half as many of the latter. This is obviously a device that could easily be used to give the public a very biased political presentation during a campaign. Is the FCC then going to supervise CATV systems to see that their programs comply with all of the requirements of section 315 and "fairness"? How will this be accomplished? Will the FCC require program origination by CATV's? These and a host of other problems flow directly and inevitably from the approach adopted here. To say that any single situation is unlikely is not an adequate response. The records of the FCC and its own attempts to influence programming are eloquent testimony that situations such as those suggested, and others more bizarre and unusual, do occur and recur.

It should be noted that the rules now adopted by the Commission are based in significant part upon its concern for the preservation of "local live" programming, and that the notice of inquiry suggests that the protection which the Commission is now bestowing upon broadcasting stations is likely to be "accompanied by a concomitant duty on the part of the station" to provide "local live" programming. See notice of inquiry, paragraph 53. Thus, the nonduplication rule is not only a direct intrusion into the programming area through control of CATV's, but is also another argument to buttress the case for further Commission control of the programming of broadcasters. Believing, as I do, that the Commission should not seek to control program content in the field of broadcasting, I am opposed to the present approach. See separate opinions in *Lee Roy McCourry*, 2 R.R. 2d 8 (1964); *George E. Borst, et al.*, FCC 65-207 (1965); *The Role of Law in Broadcasting*, 7 J. of Bdesting, 113 (1964); *Religious Liberty and Broadcasting*, 33 Geo. Wash. L.R. (March 1965).

One practical factor that seems to be left out of consideration in the adoption of a nonduplication rule is that this is the approach which is most likely to provide incentive, if not virtual necessity, for CATV's to undertake the origination of their own programs. The operation of the nonduplication rule means that the CATV operators are required to delete material from the programs which they receive and deliver to subscribers and it also means that when such material is deleted the CATV is left with a vacant channel. While the economic pressures and motivations will undoubtedly vary from situation to situation, this kind of situation provides both the opportunity and incentive for program origination; and therefore, in the long run, is likely to engender more competition for the local television station than it avoids. It seems to me to be far more simple and effective, not to mention wise and appropriate, to require that CATV's shall carry local stations, that they shall not alter or degrade the signals that they carry, and that they shall meet such other engineering requirements as may be found appropriate, and to leave determination of programming to the broadcasters without forcing the CATV operators into the area of program selection and encouraging them to enter the area of program origination.

The most important and fundamental legal objection to the present Commission action is its lack of adequate jurisdictional basis. The rule promulgated by the Commission at this time undertakes to regulate the programs that may be carried by CATV's by requiring common carriers that serve the CATV's to impose upon their customers, as a condition of service, the limitations contained in the Commission rules. The Commission has repeatedly rejected this basis of jurisdiction in the past, as appears from the cases cited and quoted below. But regardless of lack of support in precedent or statutory language, the logical implications of this approach should warn of its unsoundness. If the Commission can impose its will on a person or business entity that is the customer of a common carrier by the simple device of requiring the common carrier to act as the Commission's policeman in order to keep its license, then the Commission can regulate any business in the United States. Every business and most citizens are customers of the telephone and telegraph companies. It has never previously been suggested that this fact subjected them to regulation by the FCC. But if today's decision stands, then that is the law. The Commission need no longer be constrained by any technical limitations on its jurisdiction arising from statutes enacted by Congress, if this theory is sustained by the courts. The rule adopted by the Commission today applies to CATV's served by the telephone company as well as to those served by CATV relay companies. But there is nothing in the logic of the Commission's jurisdictional approach that limits this technique to CATV's. If this jurisdictional foundation is sound for CATV's, the Commission may, by precisely the same technique, impose its regulations on theaters or newspapers, on stock brokers or taxicabs, indeed on any business or person that needs and uses the services of a communications common carrier.

The Commission's assertion of direct jurisdiction over companies that receive broadcast signals and transmit them wholly by wire within a single State, without any specific statutory foundation, is equally alarming in its implications. The principal argument urged in support of the Commission's jurisdiction over such companies is that it is desirable for the FCC to have such jurisdiction in order to attain the broad general objectives of the Communications Act. However, if this reasoning is sound, then the jurisdiction of the Commission is literally unlimited. There is scarcely any aspect of organized social living that is not in some way related to the complex ramifications of the communications system that is now under the jurisdiction of the Commission. If the Commission has authority to deal with any activities which "threaten to impede realization of the Commission's * * * plan and policies" (memorandum on jurisdiction) then it can control all amusements, the field of journalism, the scheduling of movements by trains, planes, and ships, not to mention almost any other activities that is either competitive or ancillary to or an important user of communications. Such vague and broad reasoning simply will not sustain jurisdiction as to activities not plainly within the scope of some more specific statutory language. See *F.P.C. v. Anhandle Co.*, 337 U.S. 498 (1949).

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When the Communications Act itself is examined it is found that not only is language lacking to give the Commission jurisdiction which it undertakes to assert here but the language of the statute expressly denies that jurisdiction.

Section 1 of the act, 47 U.S.C. 151, states the purpose of the act in most general terms and states that the FCC is created pursuant to that purpose. However, it does not define or confer any jurisdiction.

Section 2 of the act, 47 U.S.C. 152, says in its first subdivision that "the provisions of this chapter shall apply to all interstate and foreign communication by wire or radio * * *." It does not state that the Commission has jurisdiction over all such communication. Rather, it describes in general terms the scope of the act and the outermost limitations of its application. However, it says that within these outermost limits the act applies pursuant to its provisions. In other words, in order to find jurisdiction within the scope described by the first subdivision of section 2, it is necessary to find some specific provision of the act conferring jurisdiction.

This is emphasized by the second subdivision of section 2, which specifically says that nothing in the act shall be construed to give the Commission jurisdiction with respect to "intrastate communication service by wire or radio of any carrier" or "any carrier engaged in interstate or foreign communication solely through connection by radio * * * with facilities located in an adjoining State * * * of another carrier * * *." It would seem that the latter clauses specifically exclude both CATV relay companies and CATV's from the jurisdiction of the Commission when they do not use microwave. However, it is argued that the intrastate relay companies using wire, rather than microwave, are connected by radio with broadcasters in another State rather than with carriers in another State. The obvious answer is that at the time of enactment of the Communications Act such things as CATV's were unheard of and that the intent of Congress expressed in the second subdivision of section 2 is to deny the Commission jurisdiction over intrastate carriers which are not part of a single integrated system and which simply carry signals emanating from another State. The congressional intent to exclude the Commission from regulation of intrastate facilities and operations is indicated by a number of provisions in the Communications Act. In addition to the restrictions of 47 U.S.C. section 152(2), a statutory denial of Commission jurisdiction to regulate intrastate facilities or operations appears in 47 U.S.C. section 214, as to communications common carriers, in 47 U.S.C. 221(b), as to telephone companies, and even in 47 U.S.C. section 301(d), as to radio signals which do not have a direct effect on interstate communications.

However, it is not necessary to rely upon inferential construction. Examination of the entire Communications Act for a specific provision applicable to companies engaged in transmitting signals intrastate by wire discloses that only section 214, 47 U.S.C. 214, is applicable. This section provides that no carrier shall construct or operate a line without obtaining authority from the Commission; provided, however, that no authority from the Commission is required for the construction or operation of "a line within a single

te unless such line constitutes part of an interstate line." The
tion further provides that "As used in this section the term 'line'
ans any channel of communication established by the use of ap-
ppropriate equipment other than a channel of communication estab-
shed by the interconnection of two or more existing channels. * * *"
us, by specific statutory provision, the mere fact that a CATV sys-
n or relay company is connected by radio to some other communi-
ions facility does not constitute its lines a part of a channel of
munication comprising both the out-of-State facility and the
rastate facility. The company which operates by wire within a
gle State is, therefore, specifically excluded from Commission
isdiction by section 214. By familiar rules of statutory construc-
n such a specific and explicit exclusion prevails over any inference
t might otherwise be spun out of more general language that is
imed to imply jurisdiction.

The Commission memorandum on jurisdiction argues from the
initions of "wire communication" and "radio communication" in
U.S.C. section 153, to the conclusion that the Commission has ju-
isdiction over CATV's because their activities may be said to come
hin the scope of these definitions. This argument is wholly beside
point. The section on definitions confers no jurisdiction at all.
ny terms are defined in that same section, including the terms
nited States," "person" and "State commission." It is obvious
t the FCC does not have jurisdiction over the United States, over
te commissions or over all persons. The terms defined have legal
nificance only to the extent that they are used in other sections of
statutes. But one will search the act in vain for any section which
ressly confers jurisdiction upon the Commission in the broad terms
ntioned in the memorandum on jurisdiction. Consequently, the
nitions given those terms are not germane to the issue.

f the argument in the Commission's memorandum is correct, then
Commission has jurisdiction not only over intrastate wire relay
ems and CATV operating systems but also over television and
io receivers. The argument made in the Commission memoran-
m is that any instrumentality which is incidental to or used in the
cess of transmitting picture or sound or which forms a connecting
k in the chain of communication between the transmitting station
the viewing public is subject to Commission jurisdiction. Tele-
on and radio receiving sets are just as much within this jurisdic-
onal concept as CATV's and broadcasting stations. In that event
"all-channel law" (Public Law 87-529, 47 U.S.C. 303(s)) was
ecessary as the Commission had full authority to regulate and li-
se receivers by the terms of the original Communications Act.
arly, neither the Commission nor the courts have ever previously
ught this to be the case. Both have continuously acted on the con-
ary assumption.

The Commission itself has explicitly denied its right to control and
jurisdiction over CATV's in several decisions which up to the
sent time have not been specifically reconsidered or overruled.
e first reported decision is *Intermountain Microwave*, 24 FCC 54,
epted January 30, 1958. In this case, a television broadcaster, Hill

County, objected to the grant of a microwave authority to a CATV relay company. The Commission opinion said:

Hill County is seeking to have the Commission deny a radio authorization to a communications common carrier because the communication circuit to be derived under such authorization will be utilized by subscribers who are competitors of Hill County in endeavoring to provide visual entertainment * * *. We are of the opinion that the request of Hill County must be denied * * *. In considering this problem, it must be remembered that it is possible and feasible for communications common carriers to provide program relay facilities to subscribers where no special authorizations are required from this Commission, e.g., where the carrier already has in place properly authorized general cable, wire, or radio facilities which may be put to such particular use in the ordinary course of business. Thus, to sit out for special consideration and denial only those situations where new construction is involved, where such new construction is specifically for the purpose of providing a service to the public, when the initial or sole use of availing himself of service is a community television distribution system, would be arbitrary, capricious, and discriminatory. An alternative, of course, would be to adopt an overall policy, rule, or condition with respect to every cable, wire, or radio authorization, issued by this Commission to common carriers under its jurisdiction, under both title II and title III of the Communications Act, prohibiting the rendition of the specific type of service here under attack by the objectors. Such a procedure would be equally arbitrary, capricious, and discriminatory and unwarranted in view of our ultimate determination herein.

A few months later, in *Frontier Broadcasting Company*, 24 FCC 251, 16 R.R. 1005 (1958) the Commission specifically pointed out that even if it held CATV systems to be common carriers they would come within the scope of section 214 of the Communications Act and, therefore, would not require Commission authority to construct or operate intrastate lines. The Commission further said that when CATV systems transmitting signals by wire do not emit excessive radiation they involve no radio transmission which requires any form of license from the Commission under the act.

Thereafter the Commission conducted an extensive inquiry and a full plenary proceedings entered a report and order considering the whole subject of CATV and repeater service, 26 FCC 403, 18 R.R. 137 (1959). The following are some of the conclusions then reached and stated by the Commission:

* * * we find no present basis for asserting jurisdiction or authority over CATV's except as we already regulate them under part 15 of our rules with respect to their radiation of energy (par. 71).

* * * it would not constitute a legally valid exercise of regulatory jurisdiction over common carriers to deny authorization for common carrier microwave, wire, or cable transmission of television programs to CATV systems on the ground that such facilities would abet the creation of adverse competitive impact by the CATV on the construction or successful operation of local or nearby stations (par. 77).

Certainly, with respect to anything more than the barring of simultaneous duplication, we believe this to be an unwarranted invasion of viewers' right to get "live" programming if they are willing to pay for it. The suggested restriction of presentation of the programs of the local station's network would appear to be cumbersome, if not completely unworkable, especially considering that many stations in small markets, including some of those covered in the record, present programs of two or even three networks (par. 96).

We have considered herein the problem, the issues raised, and suggested methods of solution. Two of the broadcasters' suggestions, both relating

to CATV's, we adopt. These are that CATV systems should be required to obtain the consent of the stations whose signals they transmit and that they should be required to carry the signal of the local station (without degrading it) if the local station so requests. *Since both of these steps require changes in the Communications Act, we will shortly recommend to Congress appropriate legislation, as indicated above (par. 99). [Emphasis added.]*

In 1962 the Commission, with one dissent and one abstention, issued the *Carter Mountain* decision, which is the principal reliance of those who now argue for FCC jurisdiction in this matter. *Carter Mountain Transmission Corp.*, 32 FCC 459 (1962). In this case a CATV relay company applied for authority to transmit television signals by microwave to a small community with one local television station. The television station protested the application and a hearing was held. On the basis of a complete evidentiary record the Commission found that grant of the microwave authority to the relay company with the bringing of CATV service to the community would result in the demise of the local television station. It, therefore, found that a grant of the microwave authority would not be in the public interest. The Commission stated that the two basic issues in the case were whether the relay company was a bona fide common carrier and whether the economic impact of the grant was of legal significance or the public interest was inherent in the fact that applicant was a common carrier. The Commission held that economic impact of the proposed grant on the broadcasting station was of legal significance and was adequate ground for denying the authority sought. The holding was explicitly limited to this. The Commission said in its opinion: "There is no attempt to examine, limit, or interfere with the actual material to be transmitted. We are merely considering the question of whether the use of the facility is in the public interest, a conclusion which must be reached prior to the issuance of the grant." The Commission did not consider or discuss the decisions cited above and the only comment on *Carter Mountain* on the earlier decisions is this: "To the extent that this decision departs from our views in the report and order in docket no. 12443, 26 FCC 403 (released Apr. 14, 1959), those views are modified."

The decision was appealed and affirmed by the court of appeals. In the court of appeals six issues were agreed upon between the parties and submitted to the court by stipulation. These are set forth in the appellate opinion. *Carter Mountain Transmission Corp. v. FCC*, 21 F.2d 359 (CA DC 1963), cert. den. 375 U.S. 951 (1963). None of the issues related either to the imposition of conditions upon or control over the programs to be carried by the applicant or to the possibility of extending FCC jurisdiction to companies not utilizing radio transmission for the carriage of signals. In fact, the Commission in its brief to the Supreme Court in opposition to certiorari specifically stated that no question of Commission jurisdiction over CATV's operating by wire was involved in that case. The brief stated "* * * Several bills have been introduced in Congress to give the Commission direct authority over CATV's, a question not involved here, * * *" (FCC brief, p. 10.) [Emphasis added.]

A month after issuing its *Carter Mountain* decision, the Commission issued a unanimous order in *WSTV, Inc. v. Fortnightly Corp.*, 23 F.C.C. 2d

R.R. 184 (1962) in which it relied upon and reaffirmed the holding of the *Frontier Broadcasting* decision, and reiterated that "this Commission [is] without title II jurisdiction over the CATV system." Accordingly, the Commission ordered that the complaint by a broadcaster against a CATV system "is dismissed for failure to state a cause of action within the jurisdiction of the Commission."

In the report and order adopting rules to be imposed on CATVs through the common carriers which serve them, the Commission mentions the matter of jurisdiction in a footnote (footnote 5). This cavalier reference relies entirely on the authority of the *Carter Mountain* case as the legal foundation for jurisdiction to issue the rules. But this reliance is wholly misplaced. The *Carter Mountain* decision held only that the Commission could wholly deny a common carrier application when the sole proposed use of the common carrier was to serve a CATV and such service would, on the facts of record in that case, result in the economic destruction of a local broadcast station. The issue of Commission authority to impose conditions on or control the character of the signals carried by the relay company, not to mention the customer, was not raised or decided in that case, was not considered by the Commission (see par. 3, 32 FCC 460) and, in fact, was expressly disclaimed by the Commission (par. 8, 32 FCC 462). The Commission did say that its denial of the application was without prejudice to the right of applicant to file a new application when conditions had changed so that the operation of the CATV would not have the impact on the local television station which the record there demonstrated was likely to follow in circumstance prevailing at the time of the decision. However, this is a far cry from a holding that the Commission can impose conditions as to the signals to be carried by the communications carrier or by its customer. As noted in the preceding discussion, the Commission told the Supreme Court in the *Carter Mountain* brief that the issue of FCC jurisdiction over CATVs was not involved, and shortly after the *Carter Mountain* decision a unanimous Commission reaffirmed that it did not have jurisdiction over the carriage of signals by CATVs. There is no reason in the Commission opinion that considers this issue and concludes that the Commission does have the jurisdiction actually exercised in the instant report and order. Several Commission opinions hold to the contrary. In these circumstances, the casual disposition of the jurisdictional issue in a footnote seems inadequate at best and irresponsible at worst.

The Commission memorandum cites cases like *American Trucking Assn. v. U.S.*, 344 U.S. 298, and *NBC v. U.S.*, 319 U.S. 190, to sustain jurisdiction. However, the point at issue in those cases, and others like them, was simply whether a regulatory agency having jurisdiction over a field of activity and an enterprise within that field could act with reference to a particular practice not specified in the basic statute. The Supreme Court held that, regardless of the absence of specific reference to a particular practice in the act, the regulatory agency having jurisdiction of the field and the enterprise might promulgate regulations dealing with a practice which was considered to be an evil requiring correction. The Court points out that the necessity of formulating regulations to meet specific practices not foreseen

Congress is precisely one of the reasons regulatory agencies such as the Commission are created. However, this reasoning has nothing whatever to do with an issue as to the existence of jurisdiction over an economic or technical field or a particular enterprise.

A case much closer to the present situation than any cited in the Commission's memorandum is *F.P.C. v. Panhandle Co.*, 337 U.S. 498 (1949). In that case the Supreme Court held that the FPC could not extend its power by the kind of reasoning relied on by the FCC here, even though the FPC was seeking to regulate a company concededly within its general jurisdiction but as to an aspect of the company's business that was not within the terms of the statutory jurisdiction. The Court said, *inter alia*:

Nothing in the sections indicates that the power given to the Commission over natural-gas companies by section 1(b) could have been intended to swallow all the exceptions of the same section and thus extend the power of the Commission to the constitutional limit of congressional authority over commerce.

Failure to use such an important power for so long a time indicates to us that the Commission did not believe the power existed. In the light of that history we should not by an extravagant, even if abstractly possible mode of interpretation push powers granted over transportation and rates so as to include production * * * We cannot attribute to Congress the intent to grant such far-reaching powers as implied in the act when that body has endeavored to be precise and explicit in defining the limits to the exercise of Federal power.

The Court stated that if the Commission were of the opinion that it could have the power sought, then it was authorized to call the attention of Congress to that fact. The reasoning adopted by the Court in the *Panhandle* case applies with even greater force to the FCC in the instant situation. Here there is not merely an inference from earlier inaction that the Commission did not believe it had the power now asserted. Here there are clear and explicit declarations by this Commission that it does not have the power which the present majority of the Commission now claims. The only thing that has changed since the Commission last disclaimed the jurisdiction it now asserts is the personnel of the Commission. That is not a proper basis for disregarding precedent and changing established legal principles. See my separate opinion in *Assignment of Additional VHF Channel to Johnstown, Pa., etc.*, 1 R.R. 2d 1572, 1580 (1963).

Contrary to the apparent belief of the Commission majority, the fact that it might be thought desirable for the FCC to have control of CATV's or their practices does not indicate that the agency does possess such power. See *Youngstown Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579 (1952). Despite some reservations as to the wisdom and objectivity of the Commission and its staff regarding CATV's, I would agree that, as a matter of principle, the FCC should have the authority to regulate CATV's as a service closely related to broadcasting. I favor and will support appropriate congressional legislation to give the Commission jurisdiction in this field.

This position differs from the assertion of jurisdiction made by the Commission in the instant proceedings in several important respects. First, it is founded on a deferential respect for the constitutional scheme by which Congress must specifically delegate power before

it is exercised by an agency created by Congress. Second, the power that Congress delegates is almost certainly going to be specified and limited in extent, whereas the power derived by inference from broad general statutory terms is unlimited except by the self-restraint of the Commissioners and the vigilance of the courts. Finally, it is likely that congressional hearings will illuminate this problem and the Congress will provide some guidance to the Commission that may suggest a better course than the one the Commission is now determining to follow.

At least part of the problem that the Commission now foresees in the proliferations of CATV's is the result of the Commission's own past policies. In the past the Commission has adopted the same restrictive attitude toward translators and other auxiliary service that were within its jurisdiction that it now proposes to take toward CATV's. The popular demand which has been responsible for the recent rapid growth of CATV's has been largely the result of the denial of service to many areas because of the FCC's strictness and reluctance in granting authority for the construction and operation of translators and boosters. Apparently the Commission has not yet learned that the expansion of service is not to be attained by the limitation of competition and the imposition of rigorous regulation but rather by stimulating competition and moderating regulation. The Commission can do many things to stimulate and encourage the extension and expansion of television service throughout the country but regulating the programs that can be brought into homes by CATV's and extending the Commission's jurisdiction without specific congressional authority are not likely to help.

However, it seems to me that the most basic and important issue involved here is far more important than the interests of the broadcast stations, the CATV's, or even of the audience in securing broadcasting service. The basic issue involved here is whether a great Government agency will show reasonable respect for its own precedents and reasonable restraint in seeking to extend the scope of its own power. Undoubtedly the independent regulatory agencies have been given great power and broad discretion in its exercise. But if democratic government is to survive, the corollary of great power and broad discretion must be a strong impulse of self-restraint in the exercise of such power. In the face of statutory language, the Commission's own precedents, the prior statements of the Commission to the courts and its requests to Congress for legislation on this subject, it seems to me to be presumptuous for the Commission now to assert jurisdiction which it has previously explicitly disclaimed. If the laws are inadequate to cope with the problems of the moment, it is the function of Congress to remedy that lack. There is no reason to assume that Congress is any less responsive than the Commission to the public interest, or that it is unable or unwilling to act if action is needed in this field at this time. I am, accordingly, compelled to dissent from the Commission's efforts to extend its jurisdiction without specific congressional authority.

APPENDIX B

SECOND REPORT AND ORDER

DOCKET NO. 15971, 2 F.C.C. 2D 725

(47)

FCC 66-220

BEFORE THE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of:

AMENDMENT OF SUBPART L, PART 91, TO ADOPT
RULES AND REGULATIONS TO GOVERN THE
GRANT OF AUTHORIZATIONS IN THE BUSINESS
RADIO SERVICE FOR MICROWAVE STATIONS TO
RELAY TELEVISION SIGNALS TO COMMUNITY
ANTENNA SYSTEMS.

Docket No. 14895

AMENDMENT OF SUBPART I, PART 21, TO ADOPT
RULES AND REGULATIONS TO GOVERN THE
GRANT OF AUTHORIZATIONS IN THE DOMESTIC
PUBLIC POINT-TO-POINT MICROWAVE RADIO
SERVICE FOR MICROWAVE STATIONS USED TO
RELAY TELEVISION BROADCAST SIGNALS TO
COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION SYSTEMS.

Docket No. 15233

AMENDMENT OF PARTS 21, 74, AND 91 TO ADOPT
RULES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE
DISTRIBUTION OF TELEVISION BROADCAST SIG-
NALS BY COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION
SYSTEMS, AND RELATED MATTERS.

Docket No. 15971
(RM Nos. 636, 672,
742, 755, and 766)

SECOND REPORT AND ORDER

(Adopted March 4, 1966)

BY THE COMMISSION: COMMISSIONER BARTLEY DISSENTING AND ISSUING
A STATEMENT; COMMISSIONER COX DISSENTING IN PART AND CON-
CURRING IN PART AND ISSUING A STATEMENT; COMMISSIONER LOEVIN-
GER CONCURRING IN THE RESULT AND ISSUING A STATEMENT.

1. On April 23, 1965, the Commission issued a notice of inquiry and notice of proposed rulemaking in docket No. 15971 (30 F.R. 1078), which divided the proceeding into two parts. In part I the Commission reached an initial conclusion that it has jurisdiction over all community antenna television (CATV) systems, whether or not microwave facilities are used, and proposed to extend to nonmicrowave CATV systems the substantive provisions of the carriage and nonduplication rules adopted for microwave-served CATVs in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233. *First Report and Order* in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, 30 F.C.C. 683; *Memorandum Opinion and Order* in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, 1 F.C.C. 2d 524. Part I also invited comment on various auxiliary questions affecting all CATVs which were not resolved in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233. These have to do with color duplication, educational television stations, station-owned translators, and a possible transition period before the carriage pro-

2 F.C.C. 2d

visions are made fully applicable to existing CATV systems with limited channel capacity (notice, pars. 33-36).

2. In part II of the proceeding the Commission initiated an inquiry looking toward possible rulemaking on broader questions posed by the trend of CATV development, including (1) the effect of CATV entry into major cities on UHF independent stations, (2) the possible need for limitations on the distance a station's signal may be extended by CATV, (3) "leapfrogging,"¹ (4) program origination or alteration by CATV and the related question of pay-TV or combined CATV-pay-TV operations, and (5) various miscellaneous questions. In paragraph 49 of part II the Commission adopted an interim policy, pending the outcome of the proceeding, which provides that a microwave application to serve a CATV system in a community with four or more commercial channel assignments and three or more stations in operation (or with at least two stations in operation and one or more stations authorized or applied for) must be accompanied by a clear and full showing that in the particular circumstances a grant would not pose a substantial threat to the development of independent UHF service in the area. A like showing was required for microwave facilities to serve a CATV system in an "overshadowed" community where, because of its proximity to three or more existing stations, any new UHF station would be independent in operation. In paragraph 50 of part II, the Commission proposed an interim rule along similar lines to govern nonmicrowave CATV entry into such areas.

3. Comment on part I and paragraph 50 of part II was due at an earlier date than that specified for the remaining portions of part II, which, it was anticipated, would require more lengthy consideration and possibly a further notice to afford an opportunity for comment on any specific rule proposals of the Commission (notice, pars. 64, 68). Comments and reply comments on part I and paragraph 50 have not been fully considered by the Commission. This report and order deal only with these aspects of the proceeding.

PART I. THE CARRIAGE AND NONDUPLICATION PROVISIONS

4. In proposing that the substantive provisions of the carriage and nonduplication rules governing microwave CATV systems be extended to all CATV systems, the notice emphasized (pars. 27, 30) that two main issues were presented: (1) Whether the Commission could appropriately proceed on the basis of its present statutory authority and (2) whether any special problems of substance or procedure are posed by rules going to nonmicrowave systems. We turn now to discussion of the first issue.

5. The threshold jurisdictional question is twofold: (a) Whether the Commission has jurisdiction as a matter of law over nonmicrowave

¹ "Leapfrogging" means the distribution by the CATV system of more distant signals in preference to signals of stations located much closer to the system.

² Comments and reply comments on pt. I and par. 50 were originally due on June 25 and July 26, 1965, respectively. By orders issued on June 16 and June 30, 1965, these time for filing were extended to July 26 and Sept. 17, 1965. Formal comments and/or reply comments have been received from the parties listed in the attached app. A. In addition, a large number of informal comments or letters from members of the public have been received and placed in the docket.

CATV systems under the present provisions of the Communications Act, and (b) whether it would be appropriate to exercise any such jurisdiction without a legislative enactment on the subject. In the notice we concluded initially, for the reasons set forth in our memorandum on jurisdiction attached to the notice, that CATV systems are engaged in interstate communication by wire to which the provisions of the Communications Act are applicable (secs. 2(a) and 3(a), 47 U.S.C. 152(a) and 153(a)). It further appeared to us that the Commission's statutory powers, particularly under sections 4(i), 303 (f), (h), and (r), include authority to promulgate necessary and reasonable regulations to carry out the provisions of sections 1 and 307(b) of the act and to prevent frustration of the regulatory scheme by CATV operations, irrespective of the use of microwave. However, we pointed up the following matters (par. 31 of the notice):

While we have initially concluded that we have jurisdiction, we would carefully consider comments addressed to this aspect. The attached memorandum presents the case for jurisdiction—a strong one in our view—and is set out in order to afford interested parties a full opportunity to direct their comments to that case. Second, we adhere to our position that clarifying legislation would be desirable, and have no intention of bypassing congressional action in this field. We are clearly concerned here with new and important questions of policy and law in the communications field. That being the case, the Commission would welcome (i) a congressional guidance as to policy and (ii) congressional clarification of our authority, which would lay the troublesome jurisdictional question at rest. It is our understanding that hearings will shortly commence. The information gathered in this proceeding will, we think, be of assistance to the Congress in its consideration of the matter. In short, by instituting this proceeding, we shall gather essential data, both for the Commission and the Congress, and will have conserved valuable time and be in a position to take final effective action in either of two eventualities: (1) Congress has enacted legislation in this field which does not preclude the Commission from promulgating rules along the lines of those adopted in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233; or (2) no legislation is forthcoming, and the comments in the rulemaking proceeding lead to the conclusion that the Commission does have present jurisdiction to extend the substantive provisions of the rules adopted in the above dockets to all CATV systems, whether or not they use microwave facilities. In the latter event, we would be remiss in our statutory duties if we had failed to exercise, without undue delay, our existing jurisdiction and authority to promote a public interest in this important area. The rulemaking proceeding instituted by this notice will thus be conducted concurrently with legislative consideration, with final Commission decision withheld for an appropriate period to afford Congress an opportunity to act.

6. Following the issuance of the notice, H.R. 7715 was introduced in the House on April 28, 1965, and hearings on the bill were held before the Subcommittee on Communications and Power of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce in May and June 1965. In the Commission's testimony concerning the bill, it was stated that the Commission did "not contemplate applying any new rules that we may enact with respect to the rest of the CATV industry until 1966; in other words, until at least after this session of Congress is over and it has had the ability to consider this problem." Hearings before the Subcommittee on Communications and Power of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce on H.R. 7715, 89th Cong., 1st sess., p. 25.) No bill relating to CATV has been introduced in the Senate, and the 89th Congress adjourned its first session without enacting any legislation on CATV.

7. We think it appropriate, therefore, to take up without further delay part I and paragraph 50 of the rulemaking proceeding. Here we note that CATV is developing and expanding at a very rapid rate (see pars. 31-39, within). We cannot ignore the increasing risk of adverse impact on the "public interest in the larger and more effective use of radio" (sec. 303(g)) which accompanies the burgeoning CATV development. See paragraphs 116-117; part II, within. Further it is contrary to sound regulation for carriage and nonduplication to be applicable to the microwave CATV system and inapplicable to the nonmicrowave, which constitutes the other three-fourths of the industry. And, if the carriage and nonduplication provisions are to be applied to nonmicrowave systems, it would obviously minimize the disruption to the viewing public to do so as soon as possible—before a large number of incipient CATV systems commence operation and their subscribers become accustomed to service not in compliance with the rules. It would also appear to entail less hardship to the new CATV operator to commence operation under the rules than to undergo a subsequent conversion. Moreover, removal of the present uncertainty would assist local franchising authorities, as well as franchise applicants. We have received several inquiries from local authorities as to when a decision might be expected, with an indication in some instances that action on franchise applications was being withheld pending our decision. The "introduction of as much stability as possible into the planning perspective of those affected by our regulation" is regarded by us as a "highly desirable objective" (first report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, par. 78). For all these considerations, developed more fully within, we think it our responsibility under the Communications Act to resolve the issues in part I and paragraph 50.

A. Jurisdiction as a Matter of Law

8. While the comments filed in support of present jurisdiction outnumber those opposed,³ there appears to be no need to review the substance of the supporting comments here. The bulk of the supporting comments either restate essentially the same matters set forth in the Commission's memorandum on its jurisdiction and authority

³ *Supporting comments* were filed by: National Association of Broadcasters; Association of Maximum Service Telecasters, Inc.; Storer Broadcasting Co.; American Broadcasting Co.; Westinghouse Broadcasting Co., Inc.; Fuqua Industries, Inc.; WTVY, Inc.; Snyder & Associates; Western Slope Broadcasting Co.; Black Canon Broadcasting Co.; Mesa Verde Broadcasting Co.; Houston Post Co.; WKBH Television, Inc.; Bonneville International Corp.; Mobile Video Tapes, Inc.; D. H. Overmyer; Arcostook Broadcasting Corp.; Taft Broadcasting Co.; WJAC, Inc.; Springfield Television Broadcasting Corp.; Midwest Television, Inc.; West Central Broadcasting Co.; Rust Craft Broadcasting Co.; WCAI, Television, Inc.; American Farm Bureau Federation; National Farmers Union; National Grange; Tri-State TV Translators Association; labor organizations affiliated with the AFL-CIO; Eastern Educational Network; and commenting jointly, television stations KIOU-TV; KOTV, KXTX, WANE-TV, WAVE-TV, WFIE-TV, WFRV, WISH-TV, WXIA, WMT-TV, WNOK-TV, WTOP-TV. *Opposition*—Commenting in opposition to jurisdiction were: National Community Television Association, Inc.; Smith & Pepper (on behalf of 150 CATV systems); Columbia Broadcasting System; National Broadcasting Co.; TV Cable Service of Abilene, Inc.; Eaton, Inc.; American Cable Television, Inc.; Meredith Broadcasting Co.; Triangle Publications, Inc.; Jerrold Electronics Corp.; International Teleprompter Corp.; Montgomery Television Association, Inc.; and Journal Co. *Other*—American Telephone & Telegraph Co. and U.S. Independent Telephone Association took no position on the jurisdictional question but requested that the carriage and nonduplication provisions be applied to CATV systems directly rather than to microwave common carriers.

notice, attachment B) or express agreement with that memorandum.⁴ Since we believe that the case for jurisdiction is sufficiently set forth in our memorandum, a copy of which is attached to this document for convenient reference (attachment C), we shall discuss only the arguments made in the opposition comments.

9. The comments urging a want of jurisdiction make three principal arguments. It is asserted, first, that the Communications Act contains no provision granting the Commission authority over CATV systems. Second, it is contended that there are specific provisions in the act which show a lack of authority. And, third, it is urged that the Commission itself has repeatedly denied jurisdiction over CATV systems, that Congress is aware of and has acquiesced in this administrative interpretation, and that principles of statutory construction preclude the Commission from now claiming jurisdiction. We shall discuss these arguments in order.

10. The contention that the Communications Act contains no provision granting the Commission authority over CATV systems takes issue with the sufficiency of the statutory base set forth in the Commission's memorandum (pp. 2-7). We there relied on the fact that section 2(a) states that the "provisions of this act shall apply to all interstate and foreign communication by wire or radio * * * and to all persons engaged within the United States in such communication," and concluded that CATV systems are engaged in "communication by wire," within the meaning of section 3(a), which is interstate in nature. With respect to the provisions of the act to be applied, we stated that the authority conferred by section 303(h) to issue rules establishing the area or zone to be served by any station includes the power to prevent infringement of the rules by "any person" (secs. 2(b) and 502 of the Communications Act), and specifically a person subject to the provisions of the act, and encompasses authority to specify by rule the conditions under which the station's signal may be extended beyond the prescribed service area or zone by CATV. Moreover, apart from section 303(h), the general rulemaking authority of the Commission (secs. 4(i) and 303 (f) and (r)) includes authority to take necessary action, not inconsistent with the act or law, to prevent frustration of section 307(b) by CATV—an "interstate communication by wire" to which the act's provisions are applicable (secs. 2(a) and 3(a)).

11. It is asserted that these sections do not suffice to support jurisdiction because it is necessary to find some specific provision of the act expressly conferring jurisdiction over the subject matter of CATV. The authorities cited in our memorandum (pp. 4-6) to the effect that our authority does not depend on a specific reference to CATV or CATV practices in the act⁵ are distinguished on the ground that they

⁴ While Storer Broadcasting Co. does not agree with the impact argument (Commission's memorandum, pp. 4-5) as a jurisdictional base, it takes the position that the Commission now has limited jurisdiction over all CATV systems which is sufficient to support the measures proposed in pt. I and par. 50.

⁵ *National Broadcasting Co. v. United States*, 319 U.S. 190, 218-219; *United States v. Storer Broadcasting Co.*, 351 U.S. 192, 203; *American Trucking Association v. United States*, 344 U.S. 298, 309-311; *United States v. Pennsylvania R. Co.*, 323 U.S. 612; *United States v. Wrightwood Dairy Co.*, 315 U.S. 110; *Houston, East and West Texas Oil & Gas Co. v. United States*, 234 U.S. 342; *Public Service Commission of State of New York v. Federal Power Commission*, 327 F. 2d 893, 897 (C.A.D.C.).

concern authority over unspecified practices of regulated licensees rather than the power to regulate unspecified persons or businesses not licensed under the act. Unless specific authority is required for regulation of nonlicensees, it is argued, the Commission could utilize its general rulemaking authority to regulate any business (such as amusements, program producers, etc.) which has an impact on broadcasting or uses communications facilities.

12. The attempted distinction, even assuming *arguendo* its validity, does not fit the situation here. We are not presented with the question of whether the Commission's broad powers to take action necessary to carry out the provisions of the act include authority to regulate businesses not subject to the act merely because of some impact on, or use of, interstate communications under the act.⁶ CATV systems differ from most other businesses in that they are themselves engaged in "interstate communication by wire," a business to which the act's provisions are expressly applicable (secs. 2(a), 3(a)).⁷ Moreover, they physically intercept and extend television signals, and thus have a uniquely close relationship to the regulatory scheme embodied in sections 303(h) and 307(b). We are not powerless to prevent frustration of our action under those sections by persons subject to the act merely because the licensing provisions of the statute are inapplicable to them. Sections 312 (b) and (c) provide for the issuance of a cease and desist order against "any person"—not merely any licensee or permittee—who has "violated or failed to observe any rule or regulation of the Commission authorized in this act * * *."

13. It is further asserted that *Federal Power Commission v. Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Company*, 337 U.S. 498, precludes a conclusion that the general rulemaking power of the Commission encompasses authority to take necessary action, not inconsistent with the act or law, to prevent frustration of section 307(b) and 303(h) by CATV. However, the *Panhandle* case is readily distinguishable. That case was decided upon the basis of a specific provision in the Natural Gas Act which denied the Federal Power Commission jurisdiction to deal with the problem there involved.⁸ Section 1(b) of the Natural Gas Act provides that the "provisions of this Act shall apply * * * to the sale in interstate commerce of natural gas for resale * * * but shall not apply * * * to the production or gathering

⁶ We have not claimed plenary power to regulate any business which may have some impact on broadcasting or other interstate communication by wire or radio. In the jurisdictional memorandum we stated that the "Commission clearly has no jurisdiction over bowling alleys or theaters, for example * * *." Moreover, we sought and obtained specific statutory authority to regulate the manufacture of television receivers shipped in interstate commerce for sale to the public (Public Law 87-529, 47 U.S.C. 303(s)). There may, of course, be instances, where the Commission's regulatory power appropriately extends to the activities of persons not engaged in communication by wire or radio. But there is no necessity to determine the limits or basis for such authority here.

⁷ Since CATV systems fall within the definition of communication by wire and television operations are interstate in nature, it makes no difference that they are not expressly mentioned by name. The act applies to "all interstate communication by wire or radio" to "all persons engaged in such communication" [sec. 2(a), emphasis added]. For example, prior to the 1962 amendment incorporating sec. 303(s), the word "television" did not appear in the act. Yet, it has long been established that the act applies to television because it falls within the definitions of "radio communication" and "transmission of energy by radio" contained in sec. 3. *Allen B. Dumont Labs, Inc., v. Carroll*, 184 F. 2d 155 (C.A. 3), cert. den., 340 U.S. 929.

⁸ Other Federal Power Commission cases cited in the comments, *Amerasia Petrol Corp. v. Federal Power Commission*, 334 F. 2d 404 (C.A. 5), and *Pan American Petrol Corp. v. Federal Power Commission*, 339 F. 2d 694, are similarly inapposite since they involved a lack of jurisdiction predicated upon a statutory exclusion.

of natural gas" (52 Stat. 821, 15 U.S.C. sec. 717(b)). The court held that the transfer of gas leases fell within the exclusion as to the "production or gathering of natural gas" and hence lay outside the scope of the Power Commission's regulatory powers. In declining to find authority in the Power Commission's general rulemaking powers, the court stated that the "power to do the things appropriate to carry out the provisions of the act can hardly be taken to rescind a prohibition against certain actions" (337 U.S. at 508). By contrast, there is no provision in the Communications Act which specifically excludes CATV systems from the Commission's jurisdiction. On the contrary, section 2(a) states that the "provisions of this Act shall apply to *all* interstate communication by wire or radio * * * and to *all* persons engaged within the United States in such communication * * *." [Emphasis added.] Moreover, *Panhandle* has been construed narrowly in a recent case arising under the Natural Gas Act, which sustained the Power Commission's jurisdiction over gas leases for sale in interstate commerce. *United Gas Improvement Co. v. Continental Oil Co.*, 381 U.S. 392, 403-404.

14. The argument that the Communications Act contains language expressly excluding jurisdiction over CATV systems is predicated primarily on the provisions of section 2(b) and section 214(a) of the act. Section 2(b) states that nothing in the act shall be construed to give the Commission jurisdiction with respect to "intrastate communication service by wire or radio of any carrier" or "any carrier engaged in interstate or foreign communication solely through construction by radio, or by wire and radio, with facilities located in any adjoining State * * * of another carrier * * *." Section 214(a) provides, in pertinent part, that "no carrier" shall construct or operate a line without a prior certificate from the Commission, provided, however, that no certificate is required for construction or operation of a line within a single State unless such line constitutes part of an interstate line." It further states: "As used in this section the term 'line' means any channel of communication established by the interconnection of two or more existing channels."

15. We are not persuaded that these sections demonstrate a statutory denial of jurisdiction over CATV systems. In the first place, both sections by their terms apply to "carriers" and we have repeatedly held that CATV systems are not "carriers" within the meaning of section 3(h) of the act. *Frontier Broadcasting Co.*, 24 F.C.C. 251; *TV and TV Repeater Services*, 26 F.C.C. 403, 427-428; *WSTV, Inc. v. Fortnightly Corp.*, 23 Pike & Fischer, R.R. 184; *Philadelphia Television Broadcasting Co., et al.*, FCC 65-702 (Aug. 2, 1965). Nor are television stations "carriers" under section 3(h). Moreover, even if CATV systems were to be deemed carriers, their operations are interstate in nature since they are carrying interstate television signals. A common carrier carrying television signals does not fall within the exemption in section 2(b)(1) because its physical facilities are located in only one State; it "performs an interstate communications service." *Idaho Microwave, Inc. v. Federal Communications Commission*, 352 F. 2d 729 (C.A.D.C.); *Ward v. Northern Ohio Telephone Co.*, 300 F. 2d 816 (C.A. 6), *cert. den.* 371 U.S. 820; *Pacific*

Telatronics, Inc., 4 Pike & Fischer, R.R. 145; and cf. *California Interstate Telephone Co. v. Federal Communications Commission*, 328 F. 2d 816 (C.A.D.C.).⁹ See also, *United States v. American Telephone and Telegraph Co.*, 57 F. Supp. 451, 454 (S.D.N.Y.), *aff'd per curiam, sub nom. Hotel Astor v. United States*, 325 U.S. 837. But the same token a CATV system, if it were a carrier, would constitute "part of an interstate line" for purposes of section 214(a), even though its facilities were located within a single State.

16. The most vigorously pressed argument against jurisdiction is the assertion that the Commission is estopped by past disclaimers of jurisdiction over CATV systems and congressional acquiescence in those disclaimers (see par. 28 of the notice herein). Reliance is placed on the principle of statutory construction that a consistent longstanding administrative interpretation is entitled to great weight particularly where Congress is aware of the administrative determination and has subsequently amended the statute without changing the applicable section.¹⁰ Whatever the force of this principle in other circumstances, we do not think that it is dispositive of the legal question of our jurisdiction here.

17. Initially, it bears noting that some of the precedents cited as establishing a consistent contrary position primarily concerned matters upon which we do not rely as a basis for jurisdiction. We have consistently held that CATV systems are not common carriers within the meaning of section 3(h), and hence do not come within the provisions of title II applicable to carriers. *Frontier Broadcasting Company*, 24 F.C.C. 251; *CATV and TV Repeater Services*, 26 F.C.C. 403, 427-428; *WSTV, Inc. v. Fortnightly Corp.*, 23 Pike & Fischer, R.R. 184. But we have not proposed to depart from this ruling, which has been reaffirmed since the issuance of the notice herein. *Philadelphia Television Broadcasters Co., et al. v. Rollins Broadcasting, Inc.* docket No. 15926 (FCC 65-702, Aug. 2, 1965) now pending on appeal (case No. 19577, C.A.D.C.). Nor have we departed from our earlier rulings that CATVs are not engaged in "broadcasting" within the meaning of section 3(o) and are not encompassed within section 325(a). *CATV and TV Repeater Services*, 26 F.C.C. 403, 428-430. In areas closer to the claimed basis for jurisdiction, the precedents do not reflect a consistent contrary position.¹¹ Thus, while we initially

⁹ That the carrier in *Idaho Microwave* was carrying the signal of a television station located in another State is not of controlling significance. All television broadcasting is interstate in nature. *Ward v. Northern Ohio Telephone Co.*, 300 F. 2d 816 (C.A. 6), *cert. den.*, 371 U.S. 820; *Capital City Telephone Co.*, 3 F.C.C. 189, 193-194; *Federal Radio Commission v. Nelson Bros. Bond & Mortgage Co.*, 289 U.S. 266, 279. Moreover, in the case of network programming the communication link between the network and the station transmitter forms an additional part of the interstate chain of communication. *Ward, supra*, 300 F. 2d at 819.

¹⁰ Cases cited to us in this connection include: *Hanover Bank, Ex. v. C.I.R.*, 269 U.S. 67, 686-687; *United States v. Leslie Salt Co.*, 350 U.S. 382, 396-397; *Norwegian Nitrogen Co. v. United States*, 288 U.S. 294, 315; *Luckenbach Steamship Co. v. United States*, 280 U.S. 173, 183; *Commorana v. United States*, 358 U.S. 498.

¹¹ The position of Congress, if it has acquiesced in the Commission's rulings, is not clear. It is true, as set forth in the notice, par. 28, that following our decision in *CATV and TV Repeater Services*, 26 F.C.C. 403, the 86th Congress gave extensive consideration to some of the various legislative proposals on CATV submitted by the Commission and others, but enacted no legislation. Moreover, bills introduced in subsequent Congresses received no action. However, Congress also took no action after being apprised of the partial reversal of that decision in *Carter Mountain*. 29th FCC Annual Report, 1963. Congress likewise is aware of our initial conclusion as to jurisdiction in the notice herein issued on Apr. 2, 1965. Although a subcommittee of the House Commerce Committee subsequently held hearings on H.R. 7715, no committee report issued in the first session of the 89th Congress, and no legislation on CATV was considered or introduced in the Senate.

disclaimed jurisdiction to deny a common carrier microwave authorization to relay television signals to CATV systems (*Intermountain Microwave*, 24 F.C.C. 54; *CATV and TV Repeater Services*, 26 F.C.C. 403, 431-433), this ruling was later reversed in our *Carter Mountain* decision, 32 F.C.C. 459, which was sustained on judicial review. *Carter Mountain Transmission Corp. v. Federal Communications Commission*, 321 F. 2d 359, 364 (C.A.D.C.), cert. den. 375 U.S. 951. In *CATV and TV Repeater Services*, we disclaimed plenary power, under section 303 (a), (b), (f), (g), (i), and (r), to "regulate any and all enterprises which happen to be connected with one of the many aspects of communications" (28 F.C.C. at 429)—a power which is not claimed here. However, we assumed (without deciding) that CATVs are within the scope of section 3(a) (26 F.C.C. at 428), and also found it unnecessary to pass on the question of our authority to regulate them directly because of adverse effect on broadcasting (26 F.C.C. at 431). And, finally, we have not previously ruled on the question of whether section 303(h) encompasses authority to regulate CATV.

18. More important, even if our past rulings in this troublesome area had been consistent, we are not estopped from correcting a ruling of law which appears to be clearly erroneous. *Carter Mountain Transmission Corp. v. Federal Communications Commission*, 321 F. 2d 359, 364 (C.A.D.C.), cert. den. 375 U.S. 951; *Phillips Petroleum Co. v. Wisconsin*, 347 U.S. 672; *United Gas Improvement Co. v. Continental Oil Co.*, 381 U.S. 392, 404-406.¹² As the Supreme Court commented in the *Phillips Petroleum* case, in sustaining the Federal Power Commission's jurisdiction over the sale of gas by gas producers or resale in interstate commerce despite that agency's consistent past disclaimer of jurisdiction, "even consistent error is still error" (347 U.S. 672, 678, footnote 5). Moreover, in *United Gas Improvement* the authority of the Power Commission over gas leases for resale in interstate commerce was upheld, notwithstanding the fact that the agency had initially concluded in the same proceeding that it lacked jurisdiction and then reversed itself on remand (on another ground) from a part of appeals decision which assumed a lack of authority on the basis of *Panhandle* (381 U.S. at 404-406). *Public Service Commission v. New York v. Federal Power Commission*, 287 F. 2d 143, 145 (C.A.D.C.).

19. As indicated in the notice (par. 28), our "jurisdiction to regulate nonmicrowave CATV systems under the present provisions of the Communications Act is obviously subject to reasonable difference of opinion." However, the arguments discussed above do not persuade us that jurisdiction is lacking, and no other bar to jurisdiction has been brought to our attention. After careful consideration of all the comments we are convinced that the case for present jurisdiction is a strong one. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above and in our memorandum as to jurisdiction (app. C), we conclude that CATV systems are engaged in interstate communication by wire to which the

¹² See also, *Colbeck v. Travellers Ins. Co.*, 370 U.S. 114, 127, footnote 15; *Automobile Club of Michigan v. Commissioner*, 353 U.S. 180, 183; *Association of Clerical Employees v. Brotherhood of R. & S.S. Clerks*, 85 F. 2d 152, 156 (C.A. 7).

provisions of the Communications Act are applicable (secs. 2(a) and 3(a), 47 U.S.C. 152(a) and 153(a)). We further conclude that our statutory powers, particularly under section 4(i), 303 (f), (g), (h) and (r) include authority to promulgate necessary and reasonable regulations to carry out the provisions of sections 1, 307(b), and 303(s) of the act and to prevent frustration of the regulatory scheme by CATV operations, whether or not microwave facilities are used. The rules proposed in part I and paragraph 50 of the notice are within our legal authority.

B. Assertion of Jurisdiction

20. We turn now to the further question of whether jurisdiction over nonmicrowave CATV should be exercised at this time. Most of the comments in support of jurisdiction favored an immediate extension of the carriage and nonduplication requirements to nonmicrowave CATV systems, and the adoption of an interim policy either along the lines proposed in paragraph 50 of the notice or of broader scope. However, some of the supporting comments and many of the opposition comments took the position that we should not exercise jurisdiction, even if present, until Congress has legislated on the subject. It is urged that this would provide needed policy guidelines and avoid protracted litigation on the jurisdictional issue.

21. We stated in the notice (par. 31) that we would "welcome a congressional guidance as to policy, and (ii) congressional clarification of our authority, which would lay the troublesome jurisdiction question at rest." In this report, we stress again the desirability of our view of congressional guidance in this important area. But the lack of congressional guidance or clarification has not been forthcoming; and in the present circumstances, our decision cannot properly turn on a desire to avoid litigation or on the hope of obtaining policy guidance in the CATV field. The Commission has not been "left at large" as to the criterion to be following in performing our statutory duties in the dynamic communications field. *National Broadcasting Co. v. United States*, 319 U.S. 190, 219-220. The public interest touchstone provided by Congress afforded a sufficient standard for our decision to adopt the carriage and nonduplication requirements to microwave-served CATV systems in the first report and order on dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233. Since the "considerations underlying our conclusion that this is necessary in the public interest to avoid unreasonable competitive disadvantage and prejudicial effect on existing and potential television broadcast service apply equally" to nonmicrowave CATV systems (notice, par. 27), there is likewise a sufficient standard for judgment here. Finally, our action with respect to the paragraph 50 proposal is similarly dictated by the "public interest in the larger and more effective use of radio" (sec. 303(g)).

22. Most of the comments agree that, apart from the basis for jurisdiction, there is no significant difference between microwave and nonmicrowave systems. However, National Community Television Association, Inc. (NCTA), asserts that there is no basis for assuming

they are alike. It points to no factual distinction. Rather, NCTA renews its contentions in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 that no adequate factfinding inquiry has been conducted, and claims further that adverse impact has not been established and cannot support an assertion of jurisdiction. In this connection, NCTA has appended to its comments the material it submitted before the House subcommittee hearings on H.R. 7715. It urges particularly that the 15 days before and after nonduplication period is unjustified, and has no reasonable relationship to the showing of nonnetwork programing. NCTA's staff has undertaken a study to test the validity of the Commission's sample week network study (first report, pars. 104-109), and has found that the data developed by the Commission supports its conclusion that delayed programing occurs most frequently among affiliates in the mountain time zone, and there in one- and two-station markets. NCTA claims that its study of 33 mountain time zone stations with CATV penetration shows no adverse consequences (NCTA comments, exhibit A). It points in addition to specific examples of small market stations which have allegedly increased circulation and maintained the same or a higher network hourly rate since 1960, despite substantial CATV penetration of their service areas (NCTA comments, exhibits A and B).

23. While the inferences NCTA draws from its studies are sharply criticized in the reply comments of Association of Maximum Service Telecasters (AMST), we do not think it necessary or useful to set forth the contentions of each or to discuss their dispute as to individual situations. The NCTA appendixes do not differentiate between microwave and nonmicrowave CATV systems; on their face they constitute an attack on the validity of the first report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233. But the supplementary material upon which NCTA now relies as indicating a lack of past impact is similar in nature to the showing there considered at length and would not in itself warrant reversal of our conclusions.¹³ Indeed, NCTA, in relying upon its showing, simply ignores the two most important grounds for our decision, namely, (i) the fair competition ground, and (ii) the economic impact ground, *based on the CATV trend in recent years*. Since this is so, it may be well to restate those grounds briefly, and to take account of current information pertinent to those grounds.

24. In the first report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, we concluded that CATV serves the public interest when it provides program choices not locally available off the air and acts as a supplement rather than a substitute for off-the-air television service, explaining our principal reasons as follows (par. 44) :

* * * Because of the prohibitive cost of extending the cables beyond heavily built-up areas, CATV systems cannot serve many persons reached by television broadcast signals. Persons unable to obtain CATV service, and those who cannot afford it or who are unwilling to pay, are entirely dependent upon local or nearby stations for their television service. The Commission's statutory obligation is to make television service available, so far as possible, to *all* people of the United States on a fair, efficient, and

¹³ We have decided, for the reasons set forth in pars. 47-55 below, to delete the provision for nonduplication 15 days before and after the local broadcast and to substitute a requirement for nonduplication only on the same day as the local broadcast. Thus, our resolution of this matter affords NCTA substantially the relief it has requested.

equitable basis (secs. 1 and 307(b) of the Communications Act). This obligation is not met by primary reliance on a service which, technically cannot be made available to many people and which, practically, will not be available to many others. Nor would it be compatible with our responsibilities to permit persons willing and able to pay for additional service to obtain it at the expense of those dependent on the growth of television broadcast facilities for an adequate choice of services.

25. Our determination to adopt the carriage and nonduplication requirements rested on two basic grounds: (1) That failure to carry local stations and duplication of their programs are unfair competitive practices, which are inconsistent with the supplementary role of CATV (pars. 49-57, 76), and (2) that these requirements were necessary to ameliorate the risk that the burgeoning CATV industry would have a future adverse impact on television broadcast service both existing and potential (pars. 58-75, 77).

26. With respect to the first ground, we found that the CATV system which fails to carry the local station on its system has in practical effect cut off the station from access to CATV subscribers (par. 51). We stated (par. 57):

As a competitive practice, the failure or refusal by a CATV system to carry the signal of a local station is plainly inconsistent with our belief that CATV service should supplement, but not replace, off-the-air television service. The cable system that follows such a practice offers the subscriber the benefits of additional television service at the price of blocking or impeding his access to available off-the-air signals. * * *

Because it is inconsistent with the concept of CATV as a supplementary service, because we consider it an unreasonable restriction upon the local station's ability to compete, and because it is patently destructive of the goals we seek in allocating television channels to different areas and communities, we believe that a CATV system's failure to carry the signal of a local station is inherently contrary to the public interest. Only if we were persuaded that the overall impact of CATV competition upon broadcasting would be entirely negligible would we consider countenancing such a practice.

27. We further pointed out that CATV, though distributing the programs of the television broadcast service, stands outside its normal program distribution process and fails to recognize the reasonable exclusivity for which the local stations have bargained in the program market when it duplicates local programming via the signals of distant stations (pars. 52-56). We summarized our conclusion that this was unfair and inconsistent with CATV's supplementary role as follows (par. 57):

In light of the unequal footing on which broadcasters and CATV systems now stand with respect to the market for program product, we cannot regard a CATV system's duplication of local programming via the signals of distant stations as a fair method of competition. We do not regard the patterns of exclusivity created in the existing system for the distribution of television programs as sacrosanct. We think it apparent, however, that the creation of a reasonable measure of exclusivity is an entirely appropriate and proper way for program suppliers to protect the value of their product, and for stations to protect their investment in programs. We think the basic congressional judgment underlying section 325(a) limitation on re-broadcasting is the same.

Nor do we consider the duplication of existing off-the-air service to be consistent with CATV's appropriate role as a supplementary service. Whatever the ultimate impact of CATV competition upon the revenues and operation of competing stations, duplication is highly likely to affect the audience

for the specific programs involved. And it does so without generally offering the public a substantially different service. We believe that a service such as CATV, which lives on the product of the existing television service, should at a minimum give some measure of recognition to the fundamental distribution practices which have developed in the parent industry's competitive program market—to exhibition rights for which others must bargain and pay but which it has thus far been able to use without any bargaining by itself or by the stations whose signals it carries. Once again, unless we were convinced that the impact of CATV competition upon broadcasting service would be negligible, we would favor some restrictions upon the ability of CATV systems to duplicate the programs of local broadcasting systems, as a partial equalization of the conditions under which CATV and broadcasting service compete. [Footnotes omitted.]

28. We stated that the foregoing grounds were "enough to justify regulatory action" (par. 58) and that "every station affected is entitled to appropriate carriage and nonduplication benefits—irrespective of the specific damage which any individual CATV system may do to the financial health of the individual station" (par. 76). But, as stated, we also turned to another ground based on the economic impact of CATV upon television broadcast development. We considered at some length the data and arguments before us on the question of impact (pars. 58-75), finding—as in 1959—that it is "impossible, with the data at hand, to isolate reliably the effects of CATV competition from all of the other factors which operate to produce particular financial results in differing settings" (par. 68). However, taking account of nationwide trends affecting the nature of CATV offerings, the character of the markets entered, and the degree of penetration achieved, we also found it plain that CATV could have substantial negative effect upon station revenues and audiences even though we lack the tools to measure precisely the degree of impact (pars. 65-69). We further found reason to believe that the impact was likely to be "more serious in the future than it has been in the past" (par. 69), and stressed our concern with the effect of explosive CATV growth in a critical period for UHF development (pars. 71-77). In sum, the Commission's judgment on this ground was based very largely, not upon the past, but upon the trends which were already evident and whose dimensions called for action now to assure the public interest in the future.

29. The additional showing made in the appendixes to the NCTA comments is not directed to the above crucial considerations concerning the trends in the CATV or UHF fields. Instead, it focuses upon certain situations which, it claims, establish that CATV has no adverse impact upon television broadcasting. But each of its examples is sharply disputed by AMST, which points to significant impact in some cases or sets forth other factors for the improvement in the situation of the television station in the face of CATV competition. For example, AMST notes that several stations whose network hourly rate has not declined since 1960 were already at or near the minimum rate for the network involved (AMST reply comments, pp. 27-28, Attachment A, pp. 10-14). It attributes whatever success station WLUC-TV, Marquette, Mich., has enjoyed in recent years to new management beginning in 1960 and states that the station has suffered a decline in average quarterly hour audience while local revenues have

remained stagnant (AMST reply comments, pp. 29-30, attachment A, p. 14). AMST also points out that WBOC-TV, Salisbury, N., following a change in ownership in 1961 and the infusion of a substantial financial investment, extended its hours of operation, improved its programming, and doubled its service area through substantial power increase. (AMST reply comments, pp. 31-32, attachment A, pp. 15-16.)

30. It would, we think, serve no useful purpose to delve into each of those situations. For even assuming that it were possible to isolate the significance of CATV in each situation from other factors, it was feasible in the *Carter Mountain* case, first report, par. 64) it would not afford greater insight into the crucial aspect of the matter—the explosive growth and changing character of CATV and its possible impact upon television broadcasting in the future. And, as to that aspect, events since the issuance of the first report reinforce the judgment made by us upon the basis of the above-mentioned trends in the industry. For, as the comments in this proceeding show, without dispute in this respect, the trends described in paragraph 65 of the first report have become even more pronounced. We shall briefly review those trends in light of their importance to our judgment.

31. In the first report we relied on estimates in the Seiden report which were based on data compiled in 1964.¹⁴ The Seiden report stated (p. 2) that there were approximately 1,300 CATV systems serving approximately 1.2 million TV homes. The reply comments of AMST, filed on September 17, 1965, contain the following estimates as of mid-1965 (AMST reply comments, attachment A, prepared by Economic Associates, Inc., of Washington, D.C., using data from *Television Factbook* (No. 35) and *Television Digest*):

Communities with operating CATVs-----	1, 7
Communities with CATVs franchised (but not yet operating)-----	3
Communities with CATV applications pending-----	3

While these figures are not tendered as precisely accurate,¹⁵ the rapidly accelerating rate of growth is confirmed in statistics given by licensees commenting on the situation within their service areas,¹⁶ in the *Trade Press*, and in letters received by the Commission from local franchising authorities and other members of the public.

32. In addition, the channel capacity of CATV systems is increasing. According to the Seiden report (pp. 2, 54) the usual CATV system in 1964 delivered five signals and 85 percent of all systems delivered between three and seven signals. However, there is indication in the record that most of the new CATV systems have a channel capacity of 12 channels and many of the older systems are expanding their original capacity. The AMST reply comments (attachment A) contain the following table showing the cable capacity for the 1,300 CATV systems for which it was able to obtain data:¹⁷

¹⁴ This estimate was based on comments filed in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 and report submitted to us by Dr. Martin H. Selden, entitled "An Economic Analysis of Community Antenna Television Systems and the Television Broadening Industry" (Government Printing Office, February 1965), hereafter referred to as the "Seiden report."

¹⁵ There are other estimates (see par. 116, describing the *Television Digest* estimate), but whatever the estimate, CATV growth is clearly explosive in nature.

¹⁶ E.g., comments of Midwest Television, Inc.; West Central Broadcasting Co.; WETV, Inc.; Mobile Video Tapes, Inc.; and Bonneville International Corp.

¹⁷ The data were compiled from reports in *Television Factbook* (No. 35), *Television Digest*, questionnaires on file at the Commission, and ARB publications.

CATVs starting	Capacity, in number of channels (including FM) ¹										
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1951.....		3		28	2	1					13
.....		3		26		1	1				15
.....		3	1	36	1	4		2	1		10
.....	1	5		39	3	3		2	1		20
.....		5		43	2	2		4			11
.....		3	1	30				1			10
.....	1			23		3	1		1		5
.....		2		27	1		1		1		7
.....			1	28			1	1			4
.....		2		26		2	1		1		6
.....				21		1			1		9
.....	1			25				1			16
.....				21	1	1	1				33
.....				15	1	2	2	9		3	53
July 1965.....				5		1	2	1			44
Totals.....	3	26	3	393	11	21	10	22	5	3	256

¹Includes expansions subsequent to starting date. Limitations of the source data make it impossible to determine the original capacity of most of these systems.

Expanding channel capacity is also reflected in the answers submitted to our questionnaire sent to all known CATV systems in connection with the transition period question. (See pars. 103-107, within.) It further appears that CATV activity is accelerating in areas where there is the greatest interest in UHF development. The comments of AMST list all communities or metropolitan areas where UHF stations were operating, authorized, or applied for as of July 8, 1965, and indicate the extent of colocated CATV activity (AMST comments, attachment C, table 2).¹⁸ The results are summarized by AMST as follows (comments, p. 59):

There are 237 UHF stations and 93 educational stations either operating or with outstanding construction permits or for which applications are pending in communities or metropolitan areas with a total population of over 112 million. The cities and metropolitan areas with CATV systems operating, pending, or applied for account for at least 85 million people. At least 145 communities or standard metropolitan areas with UHF stations operating, authorized, or applied for also have CATV activity. In 68 such communities or metropolitan areas where there are already operating CATV systems; at least 67 have CATV systems franchised but not operating, and at least 93 have CATV applications proposed.

The situation in central Illinois is described by Midwest Television, Inc. (Midwest), licensee of VHF station WCIA, Champaign, UHF station WMBC-TV, Peoria, Ill.; and applicant for a new UHF station in Springfield, Ill.¹⁹ Midwest states that CATV is in process of growth in virtually all of the major communities served by WCIA, including Champaign and Urbana themselves.²⁰ Franchise applications have been filed or proposed in at least 12 communities in the WCIA grade B service area, and CATV systems are operating under construction, or franchised in some 15 more. These 27 communities have a total population of 464,500—nearly one-half of

¹⁸According to AMST, table 2 is limited to the central communities or metropolitan areas where there is UHF activity, and does not include CATV activity elsewhere within the service area of a station located in the community or metropolitan area.

¹⁹Midwest is also the licensee of KFMB, San Diego, Calif.

²⁰Champaign has one VHF and one UHF station, and is also the location of a UHF translator of a Decatur UHF station.

the total population within WCIA's grade B service area. Within the grade B service areas of WMBD-TV, Peoria, and of W71AE, 1d west's La Salle translator, CATV is at various stages—from franchise proposals to actual operation—in at least five communities, including Peoria itself (which has three operating UHF stations and a variety of UHF commercial assignment). The total urban population of these five communities is 221,294—between one-third and one-half of the total population in the grade B service areas of WMBD-TV and La Salle translator. In Springfield (which has one operating UHF station and applications pending for two new UHF stations), applications for CATV franchises are under active consideration in Springfield and another community located in the grade B contour of the proposed UHF stations. The total urban population of these cities is 92,072—approximately one-half of the total population within the grade B contour of Midwest's proposed new UHF station. Midwest states that the proposals for CATV in Springfield, Peoria, Champaign, and Urbana have all been announced since April 23, 1965, and that at least eight new CATV operators filed applications for franchises in central Illinois during the first 2 weeks of July.

35. A description of CATV growth in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas is given by Mobile Video Tapes, Inc., the licensee of KRGV-TV in Weslaco-Harlingen, Tex. According to Mobile Video Tapes, Weslaco has a 1960 census population of 15,649 and the population of Harlingen-San Benito urbanized area is 61,658. It states that Walter Thompson Co. (*Population and Its Distribution, The United States Markets*, 8th ed., 1961), lists the Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito market (which includes Weslaco) as a class "C" market, 143d market in the United States, with a population of only 151,143. The ARB total net weekly circulation of KRGV, as of March 1, 1965, was only 75,100 homes. CATV franchises have been granted in towns within its service area and other CATV systems are proposed. The communities with CATV franchises, their populations, and grade of KRGV coverage are given by Mobile Video Tapes as follows:

Community	1960 census population	KRGV coverage
Brownsville.....	48,040	Grade A.
Edinburg.....	18,706	City Grade A.
McAllen.....	32,728	Grade A.
Mission.....	14,081	Grade B.
Pharr.....	14,106	City Grade B.

Mobile Video Tapes points out that this "constitutes the heart of the market—84.4 percent of the population shown by J. Walter Thompson for the entire Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito market."

36. It appears, moreover, that there is significant CATV activity in the vicinity of fairly large cities with multiple channel assignments. The AMST comments (attachment C, tables IA, B, and C)²¹ tabulate the CATV systems in operation, franchised or applied for within

²¹ Corrections to these tables were supplied in an "addendum" to the AMST comments submitted on Aug. 12, 1965.

the A and B contours of existing or potential VHF and UHF stations in 11 areas "believed to be centers of considerable CATV activity": Bakersfield and Sacramento, Calif.; Orlando and St. Petersburg, Fla.; Rockford, Ill.; Evansville and Indianapolis, Ind.; Chester and Utica, N.Y.; and Columbus and Dayton, Ohio. The extent of CATV penetration is detailed in tables IA, B, and C. All three show separate figures for grade A and grade B contours, for VHF and UHF respectively. Table IA shows the penetration in terms of number of places in which CATV franchises have been granted or applied for. Table IB gives the equivalent data in terms of potential CATV households²² compared with the total number of households within the broadcast contours. Table IC converts the data in IB to percentages of the total number of households within the broadcast contours.

The analysis shows that in these 11 areas there are approximately 230 places in which a CATV system was operating, franchised, or proposed (as of July 8, 1965) within the grade B contours of existing or potential VHF and UHF stations located in the central community of each of the 11 markets. These 230 places contain nearly 1,900,000 households. In Bakersfield, Calif., an all UHF market, almost two-thirds of the potential UHF audience is already franchised to CATV systems. In Utica, N.Y., the figure is 44 percent. If already submitted or proposed applications result in franchises, a UHF station in Columbus, Ohio, would have CATVs potentially competing for 60 percent of its market and a VHF station for more than half. Existing and pending CATVs in the Indianapolis area involve half the VHF market and about three-fifths of the UHF market. In Sacramento, CATV potential comes to over 40 percent of the UHF market and nearly half the VHF.

There is also widespread CATV activity within major cities. Attention has been called to the asserted intent of CATV interests to set up "almost all American cities—small and large" and 85 percent of all television sets—40 million homes.²³ The December 1965 issue of *Television Magazine* (vol. 22, No. 12) states that franchise applications have been filed in San Francisco, Seattle, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Fresno, Columbus, Tucson, Birmingham, Providence, and Sacramento. Two of the commenting parties in this proceeding are applicants for CATV franchises in Philadelphia. The comments of Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS) refer to applications for CATV franchises in Albany and Syracuse, N.Y.; Galveston, Tex.; and grant of a CATV franchise in Wilmington, Del. D. H. Overmyer, committee of new UHF station WDHO-TV in Toledo, Ohio, comments that local authorities have granted a CATV franchise for that city and the issuance of the joint notice herein. Toledo has two VHF stations, a UHF educational station, and—according to Storer Broadcasting Co., receives the signals of four Detroit-Windsor VHF stations, over the air and without reception difficulty. Telerama, Inc., an applicant for a CATV franchise in Cleveland, has filed comments describing

²² The tables use potential, rather than actual audience, i.e., the total number of households within the broadcast contour, and the total number of households in the community of the CATV.

²³ Address by Milton J. Schapp, "CATV—Past, Present, Future," Dec. 8, 1964, reprinted in *Revision Digest* special supplement, vol. 4, No. 50, Dec. 14, 1964, p. 1.

its proposed cable operation for that city which has three VHF stations, a UHF educational station, and applications pending for new UHF facilities.²⁴ Taft Broadcasting Co., in a June 1965 petition to deny a microwave application (file No. 6226-C1-P-65) to bring three New York independent stations to CATV systems in the Wilkes-Barre-Scranton area of Pennsylvania, states that in the last 6 months 90 franchise applications have been filed in 54 communities in Luzerne and Lycoming Counties. The Scranton-Wilkes-Barre area is served by three UHF stations, providing three full network service.

39. The most factually detailed comments on big city CATV were submitted by Midwest Television, Inc., licensee of station KFMB-TV in San Diego, Calif. According to Midwest, CATV is growing at a great speed in the San Diego area, which is presently served by three VHF stations providing the programs of all three networks.²⁵ In addition, construction permits are outstanding for two new commercial UHF stations in San Diego and an application is pending for a UHF educational station. Since March 1963, when the first CATV system in the area was franchised, seven additional systems have been franchised. All eight CATV systems are within the grade A contour of KFMB-TV, which falls within the Metropolitan San Diego area; four are located in San Diego itself. While four of the eight systems are not yet operative, two of these are expected to begin operations momentarily. The operating CATV systems, which do not use microwave, carry the signals of all seven Los Angeles commercial VHF stations and carry the local stations without affording duplication protection. Midwest has been unable to obtain the current subscriber count, estimated at approximately 10,000 homes in February 1965.²⁶ However, its engineering personnel recently counted drops in a part of San Diego where CATV had been available for only 3 months. Of the 159 homes in that area, 58 were wired for CATV—and this, Midwest points out, “is an area where all the stations can be satisfactorily received” (Midwest comments, p. 24).

40. The Midwest comments also describe what it considers to be the effect CATV operations of this nature have on the audience of the local network-affiliated stations. Southwest Surveys, an independent research organization, conducted a survey for Midwest in June 1965, interviewing 300 CATV subscribers and 300 nonsubscribers in the San Diego area. Forty-three percent of the CATV subscribers had been subscribers for less than 3 months. Midwest states (comments, p. 24) that during the prime evening hours of 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., when most of the programs broadcast by the three San Diego area stations were network programs, the San Diego area stations accounted for 68

²⁴ Telarama plans to carry all local stations and two Canadian stations on a full-time basis and to carry on a part-time basis on the remaining channels the signals of network-affiliated stations in Detroit, Toledo, Erie (Pa.), and Youngstown and Akron, Ohio. While it does not propose to acquire microwave facilities to bring in Chicago and New York independent stations, Telarama states that if these signals are made available to the Cleveland area by common carrier facilities, “then Telarama may avail itself of the access to such signals.” Since Telarama submitted its comments, Cleveland has granted a franchise to Telarama.

²⁵ Midwest's station KFMB-TV is a CBS affiliate, KOGO (San Diego) is an NBC affiliate, and the third station, XETV (located in Tijuana, Mexico, just a few miles from San Diego), is an ABC affiliate.

²⁶ San Diego Telecasters, Inc., permittee of UHF station KAAR-TV in San Diego, estimated as of Aug. 25, 1965, that there are “more than 15,000 sets now served by cable.”

1. 97 percent of the total viewing time of non-CATV subscribers interviewed in two different areas and only 62 percent among cable subscribers. During the hour from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday through Wednesday, when each program broadcast by each of the San Diego stations was simultaneously duplicated on CATV by Los Angeles stations, 93 percent of the nonsubscribers saw them on local stations whereas only 77 percent of the cable subscribers did so (pp. 9-10). Of the cable subscribers, 49 percent reported that they viewed a San Diego channel most; 55 percent named a Los Angeles channel. Of the nonsubscribers in two separate areas, San Diego stations were named by 108 and 94 percent, respectively, while Los Angeles stations were named by only 5 and 11 percent (*id.*, p. 25).²⁷

2. With respect to nonnetwork viewers, Midwest states that 25 percent of the CATV subscribers named a Los Angeles independent station as the channel they viewed most and only 1 and 2 percent, respectively, of the two groups of nonsubscribers did so. More than 60 percent of the CATV subscribers (as compared to 11 percent of the nonsubscribers) named at least one Los Angeles independent as one of the three stations most viewed (*id.*, p. 26). During the period 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, there was no duplication on any Los Angeles station of programs broadcast in San Diego and no cable subscriber could watch any one of 10 different programs. Among nonsubscribers interviewed, 95 percent of those who watched television during that hour watched one of the San Diego stations. Among cable subscribers the Los Angeles stations accounted for 52 percent and the San Diego stations 48 percent (*id.*, pp. 26-27).

3. Moreover, appended to the comments of Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS), which is opposed to an assertion of jurisdiction, is a further study of CATV prepared by its office of economic analysis. The CBS study points out that there is a timespan lag before CATV impact is felt (CBS comments, exhibit A, p. 27). This is partly because CATV penetration does not occur all at once; growth is gradual. But CBS also states that networks react slowly to changes in station audiences and that it might take 3 to 5 years for a change in an affiliate's audience to be reflected fully in the relative network rate. National spot revenues and local advertising, while reacting more quickly, would still take a considerable time. The study concludes (p. 31) that the "true reasons for the modest impact of CATV thus far are the relatively small amount of penetration that CATVs generally have in any particular market and the considerable length of time necessary for the effects of CATV to work themselves out."²⁸

4. Like the Seiden report, the CBS study bases its discussion of CATV potential and impact on CATV systems operating or franchised as of August 1964. It concludes, therefore, that CATV potential is limited to communities more than 40 miles from three stations providing the service of the three networks (plus some metropolitan

²⁷ Percentages total more than 100 percent because some multiple answers were given. NABT argues that this timelag is not as great as CBS asserts. It states (reply comments, p. 22): "However long before an affiliate's network rate card is affected, audiences will inevitably drop from network orders those stations which show serious audience losses, whether from CATV or any other cause. That this is the likely sequence is demonstrated by the parallel situation—network radio, which felt the impact of television by dropping decreases in station orders long before those stations' network rates were affected."

area apartment-house dwellers), an estimated 6-8 million TV homes. However, the study recognizes (p. 14) that CATV "systems are clearly moving closer to transmitting points" and states further (pp. 16-17):

There is a final caveat that must be made at this point. There has been in the very recent past, and not included in the systems in our study, a group of applications for CATV systems in communities with three or more than adequate network services which do not appear to be related to apartment-house reception problems. Thus, applications for franchises have been made in places like Albany, Syracuse, Galveston, Philadelphia and Cleveland, and a franchise has just been granted in Wilmington, Del. While these do provide alternative programming, we do not know a yet whether this added factor will be sufficient to make the systems viable. If these systems are established and thrive, it is clear that the potential for community antenna systems far exceeds anything that we have tried about thus far and, in fact, much of the country could ultimately become CATV territory."

44. In view of the rapidly changing circumstances outlined above, we can see no point in conducting a further factfinding inquiry with respect to nonmicrowave CATV as it has existed in the past. The extensive studies conducted by Dr. Fisher, Dr. Seiden, and NCT, in conjunction with dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233,²⁹ and further studies of CBS and AMST in this proceeding, all concerned nonmicrowave as well as microwave CATV systems. Studies of this nature are out of date almost before we have had time to consider them. Moreover, they are of limited value since they cannot measure some of the most important factors we are bound to consider. These include the cumulative future effect of greater penetration by CATV systems franchised or applied for but not yet in operation, the degree of success to be achieved by CATV systems in big cities or other well-served areas, and the effect of the burgeoning CATV activity—if left unregulated—on the decisions of potential applicants and existing licensees as to whether to inaugurate or improve service.³⁰

45. What we said in the first report and order in rejecting NCT's argument that regulatory action should not be taken in the absence of a showing that stations have ceased operation, or are about to cease operation, applies with equal force to its renewal of that argument here.³¹ We stated (par. 77):

²⁹ See, e.g., pars. 20 and 32 of the first report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, and p. 49 of the Seiden report.

³⁰ The CBS study further asserts (pp. 27-30) that the effects of a rise in CATV penetration with its depressing effect on station revenues are offset in large degree by the persistent rise in advertising demand for television time. However, as AMST points out, the number of stations sharing the advertising demand is also increasing as new UHF stations stimulated by the all-channel law commence operations. Moreover, annual broadcast expenses are on the average increasing apace with revenues.

³¹ While the distant signal procedure adopted in pt. II will probably have some effect on the trends we have been here discussing, we think that application of the carriage and nonduplication requirements to all systems is still required in the public interest. First, not only will this end the present unwarranted discrimination between the microwave and nonmicrowave system, but it is called for on the basis of the fair competition ground, discussed in pars. 26-27. Second, as to the economic-impact ground we note that in view of recent growth, there are a very substantial number of CATV systems operating on the date of release of this report with the capacity to keep growing to perhaps 50-70 percent of the television homes in their communities, and thus to have a cumulative effect in a manner such as those noted in the prior discussion (e.g., pars. 35-37). New systems will continue to come into operation under the interim procedure, and it may be important that the cumulative effect of such systems, after growth to significant figures, be ameliorated to some extent by the carriage and nonduplication requirement. Most important, the distant-signal procedure is of interim nature, subject to discontinuation or revision, see par. 150. The carriage and nonduplication rules which we adopt here are not interim; they are our best judgment of what the public interest calls for over an indefinite period.

NCTA's argument that CATV has not yet caused any widespread demise of existing stations misses the point. As we have pointed out above, it would be clearly contrary to the public interest to defer action until a serious loss of existing and potential service had already occurred, or until existing service had been significantly impaired. Corrective action after the damage has already been done, if not too late, is certainly much more difficult. Further, it is difficult, if not impossible, to attempt to delineate with any precision a factor such as discouragement of entry of potential broadcasters because of CATV competition. In short, we must plan now for the healthy coexistence of CATV and local stations and safeguard the public from future injury. Circumstances have changed since our 1959 report and order, and the likelihood or probability of adverse impact upon potential and existing service has become too substantial to be dismissed. If studies are in conflict and present a close question as to the precise extent of the impact, it is not close as to how this uncertainty should be resolved. This is one of those situations in which the public interest requires that conditions conducive to the sound future of television "be assured rather than left uncertain." *United States v. Detroit Navigation Co.*, 326 U.S. 236, 241. This is particularly so, where we have two modes of service, one of which is almost completely dependent on the other for its product. In such circumstances, uncertainties should be resolved in favor of insuring the healthy growth and maintenance of the basic service.

6. In sum, we have concluded in the first report and order in Dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 that the public interest requires that CATV systems carry local stations without duplication for a reasonable period, in order to avoid unfair competitive disadvantage to and prejudicial effect on existing and potential broadcast service. We have concluded herein that we have authority under the present provisions of the Communications Act to extend these requirements to non-microwave systems. In view of the rapid surge in CATV growth since this proceeding was initiated, we think that our statutory obligations require us to act now in the areas we have proposed. This ends the present unwarranted distinction between microwave and non-microwave systems, and will enable us to make the rules effective when operations are commenced by a large number of CATV proposals presently in the franchise or application stage.

C. Substantive Provisions of the Rules

7. CATV systems, as we recognized in the first report (pars. 43, 44, and here again emphasize, have arisen in response to public need and demand for improved television service and perform valuable public services in this respect. CATV (like other auxiliary television services) makes possible the provision of a variety of program services, particularly the three full network services, to many persons in areas with no local station and in one- and two-station markets. CATV systems also afford a means of providing nonnetwork commercial and educational services to many persons in areas with insufficient population to support local broadcast outlets of this nature. CATV systems make important contributions by providing good quality reception of color signals and improving reception of local signals in areas within the predicted contours of local stations where off-the-air reception is inferior or precluded because of terrain, manmade structures, or other factors. We do not intend to deprive the public of these important benefits or to restrict the enriched programming selec-

tion which CATV makes available. Rather, our goal here is to integrate the CATV service into the national television structure in such a way as to promote maximum television service to all people of the United States (secs. 1 and 303(g) of the act), both those who are cable viewers and those dependent on off-the-air service. The new rules discussed below are the minimum measures we believe to be essential to insure that CATV continues to perform its valuable supplementary role without unduly damaging or impeding the growth of television broadcast service.

48. To insure effective integration of CATV within a fully developed television service, the new regulations will apply equally to all CATV systems, including those which require microwave licenses and those which receive their signals off the air.³² We have carefully reexamined the CATV rules currently in effect for microwave-fed systems, and have made some changes. The microwave rules will be revised to reflect the new rules adopted for all systems.

49. In brief, under the new rules, a CATV system will be required, upon request and within the limits of its channel capacity, to carry without material degradation the signals of all local television stations within whose grade B contours the CATV system is located, in order of priority of signal grade. A CATV system will be required, upon request, to avoid duplication of the programs of local television stations carried on the system during the same day that such programs are broadcast by the local stations. This nonduplication protection, as under the existing rules, will apply to "prime time" network programs (i.e., presented by the network between 6 and 11 p.m., eastern time) only if such programs are presented by a local station entirely within what is locally considered to be "prime time." Nonduplication protection will not be afforded to programs which are carried in black and white by the local station and are available in color from a more distant station on the CATV system. Ad hoc consideration will be given to petitions from local television stations seeking a greater degree of protection than provided by the rules, or from CATV operators seeking a waiver of the rules, and we are adopting procedures to facilitate such petitions. Moreover, the Commission will continue to give full effect to private agreements between CATV operators and local television stations which provide for a different type or degree of protection for the local station than do the Commission's rules.³³

50. Thus, the carriage requirements made applicable to all CATV systems will be substantially the same as those applied to microwave-served systems by the Commission's first report, except in certain minor respects discussed in paragraphs 74 and 83 below. However, the new nonduplication rules embody two substantial changes from those adopted in the first report. First, the time period during which nonduplication protection must be afforded has been reduced from 15 days before and after local broadcast to the single day of the local broadcast. Second, a new exemption from the nonduplication require-

³² Excluded from these rules will be those CATV systems which serve less than 50 subscribers, or which serve only as an apartment-house master antenna.

³³ Private agreements will not avoid the necessity for evidentiary hearing for the transportation of distant signals into the top 100 markets (pt. II, below), though such agreements will be considered in our decision.

net has been added as to color programs not carried in color by local stations. We shall discuss the nonduplication changes first because they are of a major nature.

The nonduplication provisions

1. *Modification of the nonduplication period.*—Nonduplication at the same time that a local broadcast is being carried on the cable is hereby called for in the public interest for the reasons discussed above in the first report. Simultaneous nonduplication protects the content of the popular network programming of most network affiliates and does not affect the time that such programming is available to the CATV subscriber. In the first report we further determined that the measure of protection beyond simultaneous nonduplication could also serve the public interest on a number of grounds. We did not repeat here the reasons set forth in the first report for that determination or for the further judgment that a 15-day before-and-after period was appropriate.

2. We have reconsidered the latter judgment and have decided to strike a different balance in light of the fact that the rules are now being made applicable to a large number of existing systems and will fit their existing service to the CATV viewing public. The systems which will now operate under the rules for the first time constitute the great bulk of the CATV industry. In addition to all non-microwave systems, they include a sizable number of microwave CATVs served pursuant to authorizations granted prior to December 1963 when the interim condition procedure began. We recognize that the imposition of a 15-day before-and-after nonduplication requirement on systems which have not previously operated in this manner would tend to substantially disrupt the viewing habits of the CATV subscribers. As NCTA points out (NCTA comments, exhibit 1, pp. 35-38), there is no question but that large numbers of CATV subscribers have become accustomed to viewing network programs at the time they are presented by the distant affiliates. Although 15-day before-and-after nonduplication was not required where timeliness was important, and all distant city programs deleted under the rules would have been available to the CATV subscriber via the local cable at some time within the total 30-day period, the CATV viewer might not be able to view it on the later date of presentation by the local station for any number of personal reasons.

3. We believe it desirable to avoid disruption to the established viewing habits of the public as much as possible. Moreover, we are seeking to preserve, to the extent practicable, the valuable public contribution of CATV in providing wider access to nationwide programming and a wider selection of programs on any particular day. Balancing all the pertinent considerations, we think that the nonduplication period should be reduced to the same day for existing systems. Not only will this eliminate the great bulk of delayed nonduplication costs (see par. 125, first report), but it will insure that the program is available to the CATV audience that same day and, in the case of network prime-time programs, that same evening. While wholly eliminating any possible change in viewing time on the pertinent day, this revision clearly minimizes any disruptive effect on

the CATV viewer. As an incidental benefit, we note that same-day nonduplication will substantially reduce the areas of possible dispute between broadcasters and CATVs in complying with the rules, and this extent will facilitate ease of administration.

54. Application of a 15-day before-and-after nonduplication provision to new systems would not, of course, cause a similar disruption to established viewing habits, since the CATV subscriber would at the beginning receive service in accordance with the rules. It would be possible to "grandfather" existing systems on a same-day nonduplication basis and make 15-day nonduplication effective only for new systems. But there are a number of countervailing arguments. First, even in the case of the new system, there is disruptive effect to the extent that the CATV subscriber may not be able to view programs from distant stations at the times specified in his TV guide (and may be unable to view them at the later date presented by the local station for any number of reasons). It is our understanding that it is essentially for that reason that some broadcasters, although previously entitled under our microwave rules to 15-day before-and-after nonduplication protection, have requested only simultaneous nonduplication. Second, it is obviously preferable to have one set of rules for all systems and thus to avoid the anomalous situation of millions of CATV subscribers viewing under one set of rules and other millions, often neighbors in close-by communities, subjected to a different set. Under the circumstances, we think it better to proceed by rule for same-day nonduplication for all systems, and to safeguard the public interest in the particular instance warranting different treatment pursuant to the ad hoc procedures discussed in paragraph 97 below.

55. We also considered the question of retaining the 15-day before-and-after nonduplication provision for nonnetwork programming. But, as we have previously recognized, and indeed stress in our report (pars. 123, 131, *infra*), 15-day before-and-after nonduplication affords, at best, only minimal protection with respect to the presentation by local stations of syndicated and film programming. Such programming is not presented on a nationwide simultaneous or even near-simultaneous basis. Retention of the 15-day provision for nonnetwork programs alone would serve little effective purpose. Still differently, the adoption of a uniform "same day" rule will not, in our judgment, significantly affect the protection afforded as to nonnetwork or independent programming. Rather, we have determined that we must look elsewhere if we are to achieve effective relief in this respect. We treat the situation of the independent station in part II below. As a general approach encompassing all stations, we are proposing to the Congress that it consider the question of extending the rebroadcast concept of section 325(a) to CATV. It may be that regulation of this nature would prove a preferable and more effective means of achieving fair recognition of the exclusivity contracts of the program marketplace. Here again, we shall consider requests seeking not extensive protection of nonnetwork programming on an ad hoc basis.

²⁴ With "same day" nonduplication affording substantial protection to the most popular network programming, most network affiliated stations should be viable.

sure that the public interest is not prejudiced in the unusual situation although, as stated, we are unaware of any instance where the 15-day period afforded effective relief in this respect).

3. While conflicting considerations are presented, we believe that a resolution constitutes a fair compromise. First, same-day nonduplication is clearly sufficient to take care of the time zone differential problem, i.e., to preclude a CATV system, which brings programs across either border of the mountain time zone, from duplicating most, if not all, of a local station's network programs an hour or two before or after they are presented locally. Moreover, it will afford a station affiliated with more than one network some leeway in preparing what it regards as the most attractive programs of each for the benefit of the non-CATV audience (and also, the CATV audience—see par. 115, first report) so long as such programs are presented on the same day as the network presentation and prime-time programs are broadcast entirely within prime-time hours.³⁵ This, as stated, minimize any disruption to the CATV subscribers. In addition, we will consider requests by local stations and CATV systems for different treatment on an ad hoc basis, pursuant to the summary procedures discussed in paragraph 97, where possible, or by evidentiary hearing if necessary. Thus, the station which receives its network programming by mail, or the station or system which faces some other unusual problem, can bring its situation to our attention to such relief as may be appropriate in the individual circumstances warranted by the public interest. Similarly, the CATV system may seek a waiver of the rules. We stress, in addition, that the Commission will continue to give full effect to private agreements between CATV operators and local television stations which provide for a different type or degree of protection for the local station than do the Commission's rules. We believe that the above resolution fairly serves the public interest. If further revisions are needed on the basis of our experience with these new provisions, we shall of course move promptly to implement such revisions.

7. Our decision to adopt same-day nonduplication makes appropriate some other revisions in the exclusivity sections of the rules. First, however, we stress those provisions which remain unchanged. We shall retain the provision requiring the local station to present prime-time network programming entirely within prime-time hours in order to be entitled to nonduplication.³⁶ Thus, the CATV system

In this connection, we note that the amount of delayed network broadcasting in the median one- or two-station markets is about 5½ and 11 hours per week, respectively. See ¶108, first report. While this amount is not insignificant and we recognize that there is some detriment to the public if the local station in the median market curtails delayed broadcasts because of the absence of nonduplication protection, we point out that the amount of delayed broadcasts is not of too large a nature in the median market, and that we should not expect the local station to cease all delayed broadcasts in the absence of such nonduplication protection. Moreover, the pending liberalization of our translator rules may result in greater availability of off-the-air service in one- and two-station markets.

AMST has requested elimination of the exception for prime-time programs broadcast outside of prime-time hours. AMST urges that this provision is unnecessary because it is really in the best interests of the station to carry prime-time programs in prime hours if the Commission has ample power to remedy any abuse. It is further asserted that there may be instances where a station reasonably desires, and has network consent, to carry such programs at other hours. However, a prior CATV presentation does not prevent the station from repeating the program outside of prime time if it has good reason to do so, and it is unlikely that instances of this nature would arise often enough to make the loss of exclusivity a significant problem. Since the provision is designed to insure that CATV subscribers have prime-time programs conveniently available in the hours of maximum viewing, the public interest is best served by its retention.

need not delete reception of any network program which is scheduled by the network between the hours of 6 and 11 p.m., eastern time, which is broadcast by the station requesting deletion, in whole or in part, outside of the period which would normally be considered prime time for the network programming in the time zone involved. This will insure that such programs are available to the CATV subscribers in maximum viewing hours. We shall also retain the provision that the CATV system need not delete reception of any program at which time of presentation is of special significance, such as a sports or sporting event, except where the program is being simultaneously broadcast by the local station. And, although it is of greatly reduced significance for same-day nonduplication, we shall retain the provision that the CATV system need not delete reception of a network program if, in so doing, it would leave available for reception by subscribers, at any time, less than the programs of two networks (including those broadcast by any stations whose signals are being carried and whose program exclusively is being protected pursuant to the requirements of the rules).

58. However, there no longer appears to be any real necessity for the provisos to sections 21.712(g), 74.1033(c), and 91.559(c), i.e., that:

(1) The system is not required to maintain the exclusivity of the network programming of any such station if the system carries the signal(s) of one or more equal or higher priority stations (other than a satellite or parent of the station requesting exclusivity) which substantially duplicates the network programming of the station requesting exclusivity; and

(2) The system is not required to maintain the exclusivity of the network programming of any such station if the system carries the signal(s) of one or more equal or higher priority stations (other than a satellite or parent of the station requesting exclusivity) which operates in what is normally and usually considered other markets for purposes of television program distribution.

These provisions were grounded in the 15-day before-and-after nonduplication period which protected network programs delayed substantially beyond the date of network presentation and protected nonnetwork programs for a total of 30 days. In view of same-day nonduplication, we shall provide simply that higher priority signals carried on the system are entitled to exclusivity against lower priority or more distant signals but not against signals of equal priority.³⁷

59. *Color duplication.*—In the first report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 we decided that the public interest would be served by some accommodation which would permit a CATV system to duplicate the programs of a local station in color where the station transmits only in black and white (par. 143). However, we did not then determine whether such an exception should apply across the board or whether the CATV system should be required to make a threshold showing that a certain number or percentage of its subscribers possess color receiving sets. Comment on this question was invited in this proceeding.

60. Most of the comments, from broadcast and CATV interests alike, favor permitting color duplication on an across-the-board basis.

³⁷ Though these modifications stem from our action in shortening the nonduplication period, we note that changes of this nature were requested by AMST and ABC under the 15-day before-and-after nonduplication period.

One has supported the proposed alternative of requiring a threshold showing by the CATV system. It is urged that it is in the public interest for color programming to be available to as many persons as possible, and that this should be encouraged by the Commission pursuant to section 303(g) of the act. The few comments opposed to making an exception for color claim that it is unnecessary. They assert that most stations not already equipped to present network programs in color will acquire such equipment now that all of the networks have commenced a significant degree of color transmission. It is further asserted that the exception would penalize smaller stations lacking financial resources to convert to color.

31. In light of the comments, we have decided to permit color duplication of local black and white transmissions without requiring any threshold showing by the CATV system. It may be that most stations will shortly be equipped to present network programs in color. But in that event the broadcasters have no real cause for complaint in the adoption of a provision which will not adversely affect them. We think that the exception is in the direction of encouraging the wider distribution of color programming and that it is consistent with the supplementary role of CATV. Any local station finding itself at a significant disadvantage can install equipment for the transmission of network color programs "at relatively little expense" (comments of American Broadcasting Co.), which would benefit its non-CATV viewing public. Hardship situations may be brought to the Commission for such relief as may be warranted by the station's showing. Accordingly, the rules governing microwave-served CATVs will be amended in this respect and the exception will be incorporated in the rules adopted for all systems. The exception will also apply where a local station is equipped for simultaneous color transmission of network programs, but delays a color program for later presentation on the same day by means of black and white video tapes.

32. Some of the CATV comments urge us to go further and permit duplication of local colorcasts where a CATV system makes a showing that the technical quality of the local signal is substantially inferior to another signal. While we would, of course, consider any such showing on a case-by-case basis, we have no reason to anticipate any widespread problem warranting action by rule. We expect that valid complaints of this nature will be rare. In most instances the technical quality of the local signal should be sufficiently good to permit satisfactory color reception on the cable if the CATV system and the station cooperate in good faith to accomplish this result. We would expect good-faith efforts by both to resolve any technical problem before any complaint is made to the Commission.

33. *Other changes in the nonduplication provisions suggested by the parties.*—The comments of NCTA (exhibit B, pp. 35-38) assert that minute program changes by the local station require the CATV operator to bear the labor costs of a manually controlled switching device or to punch a new tape for the remainder of the week where an automatic switch is used. While this assertion was made in the context of the delayed nonduplication provision, we think that the broadcaster should afford the CATV sufficient advance notice of non-

duplication requests to permit the CATV system to make its program schedule available to subscribers and to set an automatic switching device only once for the entire week. Accordingly, we shall amend section 21.712(h), 74.1033(f), and 91.559(f) to require that the station, upon request of the CATV operator, shall give notice under sections at least 8 days prior to the broadcast to be deleted. Since same-day nonduplication affects principally network programs, which are ordinarily presented at the same time each week during the work season, this amendment should pose no difficulty for the station. Indeed, in most instances it would appear that such notice could be given at the start of the network season and continued in effect until further notice occasioned by changes in the schedule of the network or the local station.

64. AMST urges that the rules be modified to provide nonduplication protection to local stations which are not carried on the cable either because no request has been made or because of the limited channel capacity of the system. It states that carriage has no essential relationship to nonduplication and should not be a condition of the latter. We cannot agree. If nonduplication were afforded where the local station is not carried, the CATV subscriber would, in some instances, be greatly inconvenienced and, much more important, others be deprived of all opportunity to view the programs involved. See paragraph 51, first report. This is not the purpose or effect of the rules as written, nor would it serve the public interest. As set forth in paragraph 68 below, the better procedure where the system's channel capacity is too limited to permit full carriage of the local station is to substitute its programs for the duplicating outside signals. Partial carriage would retain the availability of the programs to CATV subscribers and at the same time afford the station some measure of protection.

65. Other changes in the nonduplication provisions requested by AMST and ABC have been rendered moot by our action in shortening the nonduplication period to 1 day and the modifications we have made in that connection. Accordingly, we shall not discuss their conditions in this respect. The comments with respect to nonduplication of noncommercial educational stations are discussed in a separate section on educational television (sec. 4 below).

2. The carriage provisions

66. We shall, as stated, apply to all CATV systems substantially the same carriage requirements as were adopted for microwave-serve systems in the first report.³⁹ Thus, within the limits of its channel capacity, a CATV system will be required to carry the signals of all commercial and educational television stations within whose grade B contour the system is located, giving priority: First, to principal community signals; second, to grade A signals; and third, to grade B signals. The CATV system need not carry the signal of any station

³⁸ It has come to our attention that the requesting station may have difficulty in giving notice where the CATV does not always carry the same signals. Where a CATV system varies the signals carried, it should provide the local stations with a copy of the CATV schedule in sufficient time to permit the station to give notice of the programs to be deleted.

³⁹ There are, however, changes stemming from our resolution of the translator question (see 3 below).

(1) that station's network programing is substantially duplicated by one or more stations of higher priority, and (2) carrying it would, because of limited channel capacity, prevent the system from carrying a signal of an independent commercial station or a noncommercial educational station. Moreover, in cases where (1) there are two or more signals of equal priority which substantially duplicate each other, or (2) carrying all such signals would, because of limited channel capacity, prevent the system from carrying the signal of an independent commercial station or a noncommercial educational station, the system need not carry all such substantially duplicating signals, but may select among them to the extent necessary to preserve its ability to carry the signals of independent commercial or noncommercial educational stations. Where a signal is required to be carried, it shall be carried without material degradation in quality, and shall be carried in its entirety except to the extent that nonduplication of higher priority signals may be required under the rules. Upon request of the local station, a signal shall be carried on the system on the channel on which the station is transmitting (where practicable without material degradation) and on no more than one channel. Where a system is not carrying the signal of a grade B or higher priority station, it shall offer and maintain for each subscriber a switching device to allow the subscriber to choose between cable and noncable reception, unless the subscriber indicates in writing that he does not desire this device.

7. *Modifications requested by the parties.*—Some of the parties have requested changes in these provisions. Thus, NCTA urges that CATV subscribers see no reason why out-of-State stations should be regarded as local. It asserts that CATV systems should have the option to carry more distant signals originating within the same State in preference to out-of-State stations placing a grade B signal over the community. We agree that there may well be instances where the programming of stations located within the State would be of greater interest than those of nearer, but out-of-State stations—e.g., coverage of political elections and other public affairs of statewide concern. We recognize also that there may be instances where out-of-State stations located in another State are of greater community interest than the geographically nearer out-of-State stations because of closer community ties with the third State. Considerations of this nature will be accorded substantial weight as a basis for waiver of the carriage provisions.

8. In this connection, we emphasize that we intend to make every effort, consistent with the public interest, to avoid disrupting existing service to the public in applying the carriage provisions of the rules to systems now in operation.⁴⁰ Where, because of limited channel capacity, a CATV system cannot carry all grade B signals without dropping a more distant signal now being carried, we shall entertain a request for waiver of the rules pursuant to the summary procedures discussed in paragraph 97 below and upon the basis of the showing specified in paragraphs 104, 106. In appropriate circumstances, waiver

⁴⁰ As in the case of our present policy with respect to microwave systems, carriage will be required where a sufficient showing is made that a predicted signal is not in fact present in the community, or that a good signal is not obtainable because of technical deficiencies on the part of the station.

ers will be granted, which will permit the system to continue to carry the distant signal and to substitute the nearer signal only where simultaneous duplication would occur. Thus, upon such waivers the CATV viewers would continue to receive all programs to which they are accustomed, via the more distant signal when the programs are different and via the local signal when the programs are the same. New systems can commence operation with a channel capacity sufficient to carry both the local and the distant signals; indeed, most new systems now commence operation with 12-channel capacity.

69. Section 21.712(f)(2), section 74.1033(d)(2), and section 91.559(d)(2) presently provide that where a signal is required to be carried, it "shall, upon request of the station licensee or permittee, be carried on the system on the channel on which the station is transmitting (where practicable without material degradation)." WJAC, Inc., and WKBH Television, Inc., urge that carriage on channel 11 should be a matter for the station's choice. According to WJAC, the station should be entitled both to insist that its signal be carried on another channel, and to select the channel of a lower priority or of a local station. AMST claims, on the other hand, that carriage on channel 11 is extremely important and should be mandatory unless the CATV makes a compelling showing that this is not technically feasible without degradation. It states that the CATV should be required to take all reasonable steps to eliminate material degradation which may result from the CATV equipment used or inadequate installation.

70. Since sections 21.712(f)(1), 74.1033(d)(1), and 91.559(d)(1) already provide that the "signal shall be carried without material degradation in quality (within the limitations imposed by the technical state of the art)," we do not think that any change in subsection (2) is called for. The requirement for onchannel carriage is only operative upon request of the station licensee or permittee. If this results in material degradation, the station can request carriage on another channel. Moreover, if the channel capacity of the system is such that some signal must suffer material degradation, the inferior signal obviously should not be that of a higher priority station. First report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, paragraph 15. However, no reason appears why it is necessary for the station itself to select the alternative channel. So long as the requirements of the rules are met, the CATV operator should be free to decide how the channels on its cable are to be utilized.

71. AMST further asserts that the CATV system should not be given complete discretion under sections 21.712(d)(2), 74.1033(b)(2), and 91.559(b)(2) to select among substantially duplicating signals of equal grade where noncarriage of one or more is necessary to preserve the ability to carry the signals of independent commercial or noncommercial educational stations. It urges that the rule should be modified to set forth reasonable standards for selection, such as the respective distances of the stations from the community, relative signal strength, respective audiences in the community—as measured by audience surveys, terrain considerations, and the like. We recognized in the first report and order in Dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, paragraph 16, that leaving the selection to the CATV's discretion makes possible "d-

rimination between local signals in some instances." We further stated that we would closely examine complaints of abuse, particularly where the CATV operator has an ownership or other interest in one of the duplicating channels. We shall also give particular consideration to any allegation that the station not carried is one with closer community ties. The criteria suggested by AMST would not do away with the necessity for case-by-case resolution of complaints. AMST concedes (comments, p. 20) that any criteria for determining priority should not be inflexible and that an opportunity should still be provided for the submission of other data to the Commission. In the circumstances, it seems preferable to retain the rule in its present form until experience in its administration demonstrates what refinements might be needed or appropriate.

72. AMST also claims that exclusion of nearby network-affiliated stations in order to bring in distant independent stations which do not place a grade B signal over the community of the CATV, should not be permitted since "this would drastically affect the normal off-the-air competitive pattern of television service" (AMST comments, pp. 20-21). This provision is admittedly a "compromise approach," recognizing both that a CATV system owes its primary duty to the stations that are closest and place the best signal over its community, and also that carriage of nonnetwork signals may contribute to the diversity of the service (first report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, par. 9). The general questions of whether there should be some limit on the distance and number of nonlocal signals brought in, as well as the matter of "leapfrogging," are being considered in part II of this proceeding. Pending resolution of these matters, we shall retain the rule in its present form.

73. Next, AMST asserts that the installation of a switching device should be mandatory in all cases, whether or not the local signal is carried, so that the subscriber will not be foreclosed from off-the-air service where the cable system is inoperative or not operating properly. It is further urged that no exception should be made when the subscriber indicates in writing that he does not desire a switch, since the requirement could easily be avoided by a "small-print" waiver in the subscription contract. While these suggestions may have some merit, we do not think they warrant a revision of the rules. The rules are designed to protect local stations in areas which are crucial and essential to preserve and encourage service to the public. For the reasons stated in paragraph 51 of the first report, particularly that going to sheer inconvenience of switching * * * we do not view this area as one of great significance, requiring further revision.

74. A further change suggested by AMST does, however, appear to warrant modification of the rules. Sections 21.712(d) (3), 74.1033(b) (3), and 91.559(b) (3) now provide that where a CATV system operates within the grade B or higher priority contour of both a satellite station and its parent, carriage of one will relieve the system of any obligation to carry the other. AMST points out that this would allow a CATV system in, or very near to, the same community as the satellite to carry only the parent station, causing the satellite to lose audience for which it may be originating some local programming.

and reducing its incentive to originate programs. It urges that satellites should be treated like any other station in accordance with the prescribed priorities. Since satellites operate on assigned channels and possess the potential to develop into regular stations, there is strong public interest in encouraging them to do so. Accordingly, sections 21.712 (d) (3) and (g) (3), 74.1033 (b) (3) and (e) (3), and 91.559 (b) (3) and (e) (3), together with the note to those sections will be deleted.

75. And, finally,⁴¹ AMST suggests that CATVs be required to refrain from deleting or altering any portion (including advertising) of signals carried pursuant to the rules. Such a requirement is implicit in the carriage provisions and we would so rule upon complaint. The addition of an explicit provision does not appear necessary in the absence of some evidence of abuse. In this connection, we note that it is asserted in the comments of NCTA that some broadcasters who have requested systems to refrain from advance duplication of delayed broadcasts have later presented only a portion of the program. Since the CATV system is relying exclusively upon the signal of the local station to bring the program to its subscribers, the station has an obligation to present in full any program for which nonduplication is requested. Again, upon complaint we would rule accordingly. See also paragraph 158, first report. Moreover, same-day nonduplication will greatly reduce the likelihood of any incidents of this nature.

76. Accordingly, apart from the provisions relating to satellites and the changes occasioned by our disposition of the translator question (sec. 3 below), the carriage requirements of the new rules will be the same as the provisions now governing microwave-served systems.

3. Translators

77. Part I of the notice in this proceeding (par. 36) requested comments on two questions concerning translators: (1) Whether CATVs should be required to carry and not duplicate the signals of station-owned translators operating beyond the parent station's grade B contour,⁴² and (2) whether translators should themselves be precluded from duplicating the programs of local stations.

78. With respect to the first question, the parties have expressed diverse views. The CATV interests and some of the broadcasters argue against extending any protection to translators outside the grade B contour because such translators are operating outside the normal service area of the parent station, do not provide a local service, possess the potential for developing into regular local stations, and are relatively inexpensive to construct and operate. It is further asserted

⁴¹ AMST also asks that the definition of substantially duplicating network programs (secs. 21.710(f), 74.1001(e) (6) and 91.557(f)) be modified to apply only to a situation where two or more stations are primary affiliates of the same network. While such a deletion might have been equally acceptable as an original matter, we do not think that the difference between the two is significant enough to warrant redrafting the rules at this point. An additional proposal of AMST that the substantially duplicated concept be retained only for purposes of carriage has in effect been granted in view of the matters discussed in par. 58 above.

⁴² Under the rules adopted in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233, station-owned translators located within the grade B contour are treated as extensions of the originating station (secs. 21.710(b), 74.1001(c) (2), and 91.557(b)). Such translators will be treated the same under the new rules.

that translators should not be protected because they may impede the establishment of local stations.

79. AMST, Storer Broadcasting Co., NAEB, and the Farm Bureau urge, on the other hand, that all translators (including those not station owned) should be carried in order to provide an incentive for the establishment of translators. Translators, they claim, should be encouraged because their service is received off the air free and covers a wider area than cable service. They would exempt translators from the carriage requirement where: (1) The CATV system is carrying the translator's parent station, (2) the CATV system is within the grade B contour of a station whose programming is substantially duplicated by the translator, or (3) the translator is supplying programming which substantially duplicates that of another translator whose originating station is closer. Nonduplication protection is not sought for the asserted reason that translators do not provide a local service or possess potential for developing into regular local stations.

80. We share the view that the public interest is served by encouraging expanded use of translators to bring television service to persons in rural areas and communities not now receiving adequate local television broadcast service. Apart from the fact that translator signals are received free and reach persons outside the urbanized areas served by CATVs, one of the major recommendations of the Seiden report was that increased consideration be given to the expanded use of translators. The report states (p. 22):

Consideration should be given to the use of translators as a tool of structural policy. They require a substantially smaller investment than CATV and are compact, highly mobile, and can be sold in the secondary market. In general they provide the flexibility necessary in an industry in which structural policy must be kept free to adapt to technological and demographic change. Translators are ideally suited as a temporary communications medium, and their use should be required of broadcast licensees in fulfilling their obligations to the public by bringing their signal to all homes in their coverage area.

The report also recommends increased use of translators to broaden the coverage of UHF stations (p. 90).

81. We have already taken a step in this direction in the report and order in docket No. 15858, issued on July 9, 1965, amending the rules to permit 100-w VHF translators on any channel listed in the Table of Assignments unoccupied by a regular television station or satellite. The rules were also amended to permit 100-w UHF translators on all unoccupied UHF channels in the Table of Assignments in lieu of the previous limitation to the upper 14 channels. In addition, we have recently proposed to permit the use of microwave frequencies to relay programs to translators (notice of proposed rulemaking in docket No. 16424, FCC 66-41).

82. In line with this policy, we think that CATV systems should, upon request, carry the signals of commercial and educational translators operating in the community of the system with 100-w or higher power, where the system has the channel capacity to do so. Since non-carriage may effectively block the translator from access to CATV subscribers (par. 51 of the first report), the inability to reach the central core of the community may well destroy the incentive to establish

translator service for nonsubscribers in the community and persons the surrounding areas. Moreover, we think that same-day nonduplication should also be afforded to translators carried on the system. Translators operating with 100 w or higher power are properly distinguishable from other translators since they have greater potential for development into stations, and it is particularly important that such development not be impeded by CATV operations.

83. Accordingly, we shall add a fourth priority to the three already listed in the carriage provisions of the rules. Fourth, all commercial and noncommercial educational translator stations operating in the community of the system with 100 w or higher power. As requested in the comments, exceptions will be added to exempt CATVs from the translator carriage requirement where: (1) The CATV system is carrying the originating station, or (2) the CATV system is with the grade B contour of a station carried on the system whose programming is substantially duplicated by the translator. The provisions of the program exclusivity sections will also be appropriately amended to require same-day nonduplication upon request of a translator station carried on the system.

84. With respect to the second question, whether translators should be required to refrain from duplicating local stations, our present policies and rules are as follows: Pending the outcome of this proceeding, we have been following a policy of conditioning UHF and VHF translator grants with the requirement that the translator, upon request of any station within whose grade A contour the translator operates, refrain from duplicating the station's programs either simultaneously or within 15 days. (*Lee Co. TV Inc.*, FCC 65-483; *Pike & Fischer*, R.R. 2d 257; *Report and Order in Docket No. 158*, par. 12.) Under section 74.732(e)(1) of the rules, the only station-owned VHF translators authorized outside the grade B contour of the parent station are high-power (100-w) VHF translators operating on assignments in the Table of Assignments. Moreover, section 74.732(e)(2) of the rules provides that a station-owned VHF translator which is intended to provide reception within the grade A contour of another station will not be authorized if there is any duplication, unless the translator is intended to improve reception within the principal city contour of the parent station. However, we have waived the provisions of section 74.732(e)(1) and (2) where a nonduplication condition was imposed.

85. Our translator rules and policies are currently in a state of flux. Part II of this proceeding (notice, pars. 61, 64) proposes a reexamination of all of our rules and policies relating to auxiliary services to see if they are holding back or encouraging a variety of off-the-air services. A number of measures were proposed in the comments in document No. 14848, which were deemed beyond the scope of that proceeding. It may be pertinent to this reexamination. It was suggested that multiple ownership and duopoly rules be amended to allow potential 100-w translator operators to convert these to regular stations and to encourage television station licensees to apply for them. Other suggestions included proposals for increased power for existing translators on other channels; removing the restriction in section 74.732

e) (1) on the use of VHF translators by television station licensees beyond their grade B contour; permitting translators to be used as relay stations (only) where the need exists; permitting multiple RF amplifiers for UHF as well as VHF translators; and permitting UHF stations to use VHF translators within their grade B contours. Moreover, AMST has recently filed a petition for a comprehensive, affirmative translator program which is being considered as a counterproposal to docket No. 14229, and will also be considered in our resolution of basic translator policies in part II of this proceeding.

86. We are not in a position to resolve these questions now. Moreover, we still lack sufficient information to determine the extent to which the rebroadcast consent provisions of section 325(a) may in practice limit duplication by translators.⁴³ In addition, if translators were required by rule to refrain from duplication within the grade B contours of regular stations, a question would be presented as to whether the provisions of section 74.732(e) (1) and (2) continue to serve a useful purpose or should be amended. It would be contrary to the public interest to delay a resolution of other portions of part I of this proceeding pending a thorough reexamination of the translator rules and policies. Nor does it appear advisable to undertake a partial revision of the translator rules at this point merely in order to attempt to equalize the position of translators and CATVs. In the circumstances, we think it best to defer rulemaking action until more basic translator policies have been established.

86a. In the meantime, we will continue to grant waivers of section 74.732(e) (1) and (2) in appropriate instances, and will condition station-owned VHF translator grants with a requirement of same-day nonduplication within the grade A contour. In view of our policy of encouraging UHF, we will not impose any nonduplication condition on UHF translator grants for facilities to operate in an all-VHF area. Nor do we believe it appropriate to follow any general policy of requiring a nonduplication condition where the translator applicant is not a broadcast licensee, e.g., a community sponsored translator. It would appear unlikely that such a condition is needed in, or would serve, the public interest. The rebroadcast provisions of section 325(a) may work with greater efficacy in the case of translators not owned by broadcast licensees. Further, the amount of duplication in this type of situation is not likely to be of a substantial nature, since local residents are clearly not apt to undertake the expense and inconvenience of translator operations supported by local assessments or donations unless a substantially different program service is being made available. In these circumstances, we do not think it desirable as a general policy to place any significant barrier,

⁴³ Although the notice requested information on the extent to which networks and their program suppliers, through contracts or otherwise, affirmatively restrict duplication by translators, no party except National Broadcasting Co. commented on this subject. NBC states that since 1960 it has followed a general policy of granting consent for rebroadcast of its programs provided that the translator is closer to its originating station than to any other NBC affiliate. In a few recent instances, NBC has given rebroadcast consent where the translator operated in an area served by an NBC affiliate, but only for NBC programs which were not broadcast by the local station. See also par. 53 of the last report and order; *National Broadcasting Co.*, 20 Pike & Fischer, R.R. 1013; *Millers River Translators, Inc.*, FCC 63-504, 25 R.R. 516, 518, affirmed in *Springfield Television Broadcasting Corp. v. F.C.C.*, 328 F.2d 186 (C.A.D.C.).

not urgently needed, to the development of such community type translators. We shall, of course, consider whether additional requirements are appropriate, either upon request or on our own evaluation of a particular situation, and will make all translator grants subject to the outcome of part II of this proceeding. We will also take into account, where warranted in individual situations, the possible discriminatory effect of our interim translator policy upon any existing CATV system competing with the translator.

4. Educational television stations

87. The rules adopted in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 require the carriage of noncommercial educational stations (ETV), but do not require CATVs to refrain from duplicating their programs. We followed this course because those proceedings were primarily concerned with commercial stations and many of the considerations discussed in the first report and order did not appear to be applicable to ETV. The notice herein recognized, however, that carriage alone might not be sufficient to promote the sound growth of local educational stations. Information was requested in this proceeding as to the nature of any further problems of ETV arising from CATV operations and what Commission action might be appropriate.

88. Other than educational interests, most of those commenting on this subject were against extending any nonduplication protection to ETV, for the asserted reason that the widest possible dissemination of educational material is in the public interest. It is further asserted that CATV competition has no economic impact on ETV because it operates on a nonprofit basis. National Educational Television (NET), the National Association of Educational Broadcasters (NAEB), and Eastern Educational Network (EEN) take a sharply different view in their more extensive comments. They claim that local educational stations, though different from commercial stations, have an even greater need for nonduplication and interim protection because CATV undermines the local financial support and other local interest which is vital to ETV operations. In this they are supported by American Broadcasting Co., AMST, and labor unions representing employees in the broadcast, CATV, and associated talent industries.

89. EEN and NAEB stress the importance of local financial support to educational stations. Although Federal grants-in-aid under Public Law 87-477 are available for the construction of educational facilities, the operations of such stations are almost entirely dependent upon local financial support. Operating income is derived primarily from (a) schools and universities, (b) local and State governments and (c) contributions and "subscriptions" from the general public and donations by local industries and businesses. Members of the public and local businesses will have little or no incentive to support the local station if ETV is made available on the cable by CATV's importation of outside educational stations. As EEN puts it (comments, p. 12); "It is wholly unrealistic to expect that the public will be willing to pay twice for educational service—to subscribe to CATV and to 'subscribe' to local ETV." Diversion of funds provided by local and area educational institutions and local and State governments for inschool television would be even more serious, since these

sources generally provide over one-half of the financial support for local educational stations.⁴⁴ If a distant ETV signal is available on the cable, and can be fitted into local schedules of instruction, local schools and local and State governments would be much more unlikely to provide the financial support and other interest necessary to start a local educational broadcast service. This would be particularly the case where the CATV offers to wire the urban schools "free." Unlike the local educational station, the CATV is in a position to make such an offer because it does not pay for programs or maintain expensive facilities for local program origination and it can recoup the cost of free school service through subscription fees charged to the general public.

90. Should CATV activity within urbanized areas siphon off sufficient local financial support to preclude the establishment of a local ETV station, the loss would be keenly felt by the public. The existence and viability of local educational broadcast outlets has special significance for ETV because the educational process is geared to local conditions and needs. Local ETV stations are more than mere facilities for delivering educational programs. They are an integral part of the educational and cultural life of a community and area. This is particularly true where ETV is used for inschool instruction. CATV must plan, prepare, and schedule educational programming on the basis of individual school and community needs, whether the basic program material is produced by the station itself or outside sources. The station also provides study guides for use by the teachers in the schools. CATV cannot effectively provide this carefully planned and prepared service by indiscriminately importing signals from distant educational stations located in cities with different needs and interests.

91. Moreover, local educational stations serve not only the schools and populations in the immediate community; they provide service to the surrounding rural area not reached by CATV. NAEB points out (comments, p. 2):

Indeed, it is the rural area with limited budgets, facilities, and pupil concentration which has the most pressing need for the teaching resources of educational television. The specialized language, art, music, or science teacher who cannot be supported by a rural school system can, nevertheless, be enjoyed through the pooled resources of educational television.

In this connection we note also comments filed by the American Farm Bureau Federation, National Farmers Union, and National Grange stating that rural residents, who often are relatively remote from the entertainment attractions of the city, probably more than other groups of citizens in the country, rely especially on radio and television as a major source of entertainment and information.⁴⁵

92. Accordingly, the educational interests urge that ETV stations be granted nonduplication protection for a period either the same as

⁴⁴ "The Financing of Educational Television Stations," report of a study conducted by Educational Television Stations, a division of the National Association of Educational Broadcasters, p. 19 (1965).

⁴⁵ Apart from ETV, it is stated that rural residents rely especially on local broadcasts giving agricultural information, weather conditions (flood, frost, etc.), pest hazards, and current market conditions.

or much longer than that accorded to commercial stations.⁴⁶ Moreover, both NAEB and EEN urge the adoption of procedures to protect communities with educational reservations which have not yet been activated. NAEB requests that the CATV be required to notify local and area school authorities and ETV interests of its proposal to bring in a distant ETV signal. In this way, NAEB states, local ETV interests would be alerted and could bring the matter to the Commission's attention for whatever action or conditions appear warranted in the circumstances. EEN urges the adoption of interim procedures similar to those proposed for CATV operations in major markets in paragraphs 49 and 50 of the notice.

93. The considerations put forth by the ETV interests are not answered by simply stating that the public interest is served by the widest dissemination of educational material. If CATV operation should prejudice the establishment of new ETV stations on the unused reserved assignments or prevent existing stations from realizing their full potential, the result would be a narrowing of the distribution of educational material—a loss hitting hardest persons residing in rural areas and those unable to afford CATV fees. As in the case of commercial stations, CATV's proper role is to supplement, rather than to supplant, local educational broadcast service. The national policy of encouraging the full development and expansion of ETV is reflected in the grants-in-aid legislation (Public Law 87-477) and has long been a matter of deep concern to the Commission (sixth report and order, pars. 33-49). It would be plainly inconsistent with that policy to accord educational stations less protection than commercial stations if there is any real likelihood of prejudice flowing from CATV importation of outside ETV signals. Considering the continuous financial struggle of ETV and its dependence upon local financial support and interest, we think that the possibility of adverse effect is sufficiently strong to warrant some special protection for ETV.

94. In view of our decision to adopt same-day nonduplication for commercial stations and since it is asserted that effective nonduplication protection for ETV would require a much longer period, we do not think it appropriate to adopt 15-day before-and-after nonduplication for ETV, as requested by NAEB and ABC. There is no agreement among the educational interests as to what time period would be appropriate, and even an extensive nonduplication period would not solve the problem of achieving adequate operational funds for existing ETV stations. We believe that more effective relief to ETV can be provided by the approach discussed in the succeeding paragraph, than by delayed nonduplication periods such as 15 days before and after. Therefore, while recognizing that some measure other than nonduplication may be more suitable for ETV, we shall amend the exclusivity provisions to include educational stations. The rule will thus apply equally to all stations in line with our conclusion (par. 54 above) that they should be the same for all systems. We will, of course, be alert to guard against the possibility that CATV may pose a more acute problem for ETV than presently appears, and

⁴⁶ The longer period is sought because of the block distribution process for the NE scheduled service and distribution patterns of regional educational networks like EEN.

ould not hesitate to amend the rules should this subsequently prove necessary. ETV interests have indicated their intention to keep us apprised of any worsening developments and are encouraged to do so.

95. Perhaps the most troublesome problem raised by the ETV comments is the possibility that CATV, by bringing outside educational signals into communities where educational assignments have not yet been activated, will siphon off enough local support to preclude the establishment of an educational station. The policy of reserving channels for educational stations is in recognition of the fact that some time may elapse before such stations come into being. While the grants-in-aid legislation has speeded up the process in many areas,⁴⁷ the reservations still serve a needed purpose which should not be undercut. CATV provides a valuable service to schools and other subscribers by bringing in ETV which is not yet locally available. But this should not be at the expense of preventing a local service from ever being established. Accordingly, we shall adopt the suggestion of NAEB that local and area ETV interests and school authorities receive advance notice of CATV proposals to bring in outside ETV signals. The attached rules (app. D) require the CATV system to give notice of its proposal to bring in a distant ETV signal, at least 2 days prior to commencing service, to the local superintendents of schools and to the area and State educational television agencies (if any). This will enable ETV interests in the area to make objection to the CATV system where a local station is contemplated. Where a local ETV station is reasonably imminent and objection is made to the Commission, we would not ordinarily approve importation of the distant ETV signal unless it has been established after appropriate proceedings that this would not prejudice the establishment or maintenance of a local ETV service.

96. And, finally, it is asserted by NET and NAEB that, where an educational signal is carried on a CATV on a channel partially used for commercial signals, the placement of commercial announcements adjacent to educational material carried on CATV jeopardizes the public image of ETV and prejudices its position with program supporters and copyright owners who insist upon noncommercial presentation. However, we do not think that a sufficient basis has been shown for the relief requested, i.e., prohibiting commercial announcements adjacent to educational programming or requiring CATVs to devote channels exclusively to educational programming. We cannot undertake to preserve ETV or commercial stations harmless from all conceivable prejudice no matter how slight. Moreover, we are reluctant to interfere with CATV operations any more than necessary in the public interest or to impose requirements not shown to be essential. CATV systems with limited channel capacity and those carrying a large number of commercial signals might find it difficult to devote channels exclusively to ETV. CATVs may also wish to use educational signals to fill in portions of commercial signals which cannot be carried because of the nonduplication requirements. Moreover,

⁴⁷The number of educational TV applicants in UHF (where most of the unused educational reservations are) has increased from 5 at the beginning of 1962 to 30 as of the end of 1965; during this period 34 more UHF educational stations went on the air.

since educational stations normally do not have as long a broadcast day as commercial stations, the CATV system may wish to provide its subscribers with other material during the time that the educational station is not broadcasting. In view of the station identification announcements made during the course of the educational programing, it seems to us that the prejudice to the originating ETV station, if any, would be minimal.

D. Procedural Matters

1. Ad hoc procedures

97. It has been suggested in the comments that the Commission should adopt specific rules providing for summary, nonhearing procedures to handle requests for waiver of the CATV rules or for different treatment or affirmative relief. We think the suggestion has merit. The general provision for waiver of any rule (sec. 1.3 of the rules) does not afford an adequate procedure for seeking additional affirmative relief or different treatment. Moreover, such procedures would be useful to handle requests for rulings on complaints or disputes. We recognize that to hold hearings upon each such request relating to carriage, nonduplication, and ETV, would be time consuming and burdensome to the CATV systems and stations involved, particularly those in smaller communities. In addition, while such procedures will not apply to the matter of distant signals in the top 100 market for which a showing made in evidentiary hearing is required (see par. 141 below), they could be utilized in many instances to resolve distant signal questions in the smaller markets.

98. Accordingly, we have undertaken in section 74.1109 of the attached rules to devise flexible and fair procedures which will generally permit expeditious processing of such requests. The procedures require a written petition with notice to interested persons and afford an opportunity for submission of comments or opposition to any request and for reply. Upon good cause shown, the Commission may shorten the times specified in the rules for the filing of opposition or reply comments. The petition and all other pleadings filed by the petitioner or interested persons must contain a detailed full showing supported by affidavit, of any facts or considerations relied upon. In the case of complaints or disputes, the steps taken by the parties to resolve their problem must also be set forth. The Commission will, where possible, promptly dispose of the matter on the basis of such written submissions. However, additional procedures, such as oral argument, evidentiary hearing, or further written submissions directed to particular aspects, may be specified by the Commission if they appear necessary or appropriate after consideration of the pleadings.⁴⁸ In the event that the petition involves new service CATV subscribers, the Commission will expeditiously rule on the matter, either in whole or to the extent of determining whether the

⁴⁸ Since petitions under the ad hoc procedures may involve the resolution of controversial issues which in basic fairness should be determined on the pleadings of the parties, we shall amend the ex parte rules to make them applicable to proceedings under sec. 74.1109, as well as to proceedings under sec. 74.1107. The principles discussed in par. 9 of the report and order in docket No. 15381, FCC 65-598, 1 F.C.C. 2d 49, will also apply.

ould be a stay or other temporary relief pending such additional procedures as may be required (see par. 100 below).

Information to be filed with the Commission by existing CATV systems; notification by new CATV operations

99. Pursuant to our authority under section 403 of the Communications Act, all existing CATV operators will be required to submit to the Commission, within 30 days after the effective date of our order herein, the following information with respect to each of their CATV systems: (a) The names, addresses, and business interests of all officers, directors, and persons having substantial legal or beneficial ownership interests in each system;⁴⁹ (b) the number of subscribers to each system both currently and as of February 15, 1966; (c) the television stations carried on each system; and (d) the extent of any existing or proposed program origination by each CATV system. Any CATV system which is located within the predicted grade A contour of a television station in the top 100 television markets (as ranked by NAB on the basis of net weekly circulation of the largest station in the market) and which carries the signal of a distant station(s) will also be required to submit a map showing the location of its cable lines being used to serve subscribers on February 15, 1966.⁵⁰ It is not practicable to apply the notification provisions set forth below to the present operations of existing systems, and there is no comprehensive or accurate listing of CATV systems available to apprise television station licensees or permittees of all existing CATV operations within their grade B contours. Indeed, we have noted that while the recent growth of CATV is of an impressive nature, there are conflicting estimates as to the precise dimensions of that very substantial growth. The information obtained will assist the Congress in its consideration of the Commission's legislative proposals in the CATV field, and the Commission in its consideration of matters in part II of the notice and petitions described in paragraph 149 below.

100. New CATV systems will be required to notify the licensee or permittee of any television broadcast station within whose predicted grade B contour the system will operate and the licensee or permittee of any 100 w or higher power translator located in the community of the system, with a copy to the Commission, concerning the proposed operation within 60 days after obtaining a franchise or entering into a lease or other arrangement to use facilities. In no event may new service be commenced until 30 days after notice has been given. The notice shall include the name and address of the system, identification of the community to be served, the television stations to be distributed, and the estimated time for the commencement of operations. Similar notification will be required by existing systems which propose to add new distant signals (at least 30 days prior to commencing service) or to extend lines into obviously new geographic areas (within 60 days after obtaining a franchise or entering into a lease or other arrange-

⁴⁹ In stating the ownership interests in a corporation which has more than 50 voting stockholders, only those stockholders need be considered who are officers or directors or who directly or indirectly own 1 percent or more of the outstanding voting stock.

⁵⁰ Existing systems in the markets below 100 may subsequently be required to submit a map showing the location of lines as of a specific date in connection with any petition for such consideration of a geographic extension into new areas.

ment to use facilities or at least 30 days prior to commencing service where no new local authorization or contractual arrangement is required). In addition, as already indicated, notice to local and are educational authorities and ETV interests will be required at least 30 days prior to commencing service where carriage of a distant ETV signal is proposed. Such notification will afford the local television stations and other interested persons an opportunity to request carriage and nonduplication under the rules or to petition the Commission for different requirements before service is commenced and thus avoid disruption to the public. Where a petition for ad hoc consideration is filed with the Commission by any station, CATV system, or other interested person within 30 days after notice, new systems and existing systems proposing to add new distant signals shall not commence new service until after the Commission's ruling on the petition or on the interlocutory question of temporary relief pending further procedures.⁵¹ In the event that an evidentiary hearing is required, the question of whether there should be a stay or other temporary relief pending the hearing will be expeditiously resolved prior to the hearing on the basis of the pleadings of the parties and such additional written submissions as the Commission may request.

3. Form and enforcement of the new rules

101. Aside from the obvious distinction that nonmicrowave CATV do not file applications for licenses with the Commission or use license facilities, no special problems of substance or procedure in making the carriage and nonduplication requirements applicable to them have been called to our attention and none is apparent to us. While the substantive requirements will therefore be the same for all systems, some differences in form or procedure are necessary in the case of the nonmicrowave CATVs. First, the obligations will be imposed directly on the CATV system itself, rather than taking the form of conditions on microwave authorizations. Second, enforcement will be through the cease and desist procedures set forth in section 312 (b) and (c) or pursuant to section 502, of the act and will not include other sanctions applicable to licensees. And, third, some change is required in the provisions requiring notification to all licensees or permittees of television stations placing a grade B or better signal over the community of the CATV system that a microwave application has been filed or request has been made of a common carrier for microwave service (See sec. 2 above.)

4. Retention of the microwave rules

102. It is urged by American Telephone & Telegraph Co. and the U.S. Independent Telephone Association (both in comments in dockets No. 15971 and in its petition for reconsideration of dockets Nos 1489 and 15233) that the rules governing microwave grants should be deleted when the obligations are imposed on CATV systems directly. We think it best to retain the rules conditioning microwave grants (revised herein) in their present form for a while longer, until CATV

⁵¹ The matter of extension of lines into new geographical areas by existing systems in the top 100 markets is discussed in par. 149 below. As already indicated, the ad hoc procedures do not apply to new service involving distant signals in the top 100 markets and obviate the need for evidentiary hearing as set forth in pars. 141-143 below.

generally are operating in accordance with the new rules. Pending such compliance, we cannot make the requisite public interest finding for the issuance of the microwave licensee in the absence of a showing that the facilities will be used in accordance with the conditions. Moreover, the requests of A.T. & T. and USITA are primarily grounded in the alleged burden to the common carriers, which will be substantially alleviated in this interim period by the revisions made in the memorandum opinion and order on reconsideration in dockets Nos. 1895 and 15233, 1 F.C.C. 2d 524. However, once widespread CATV compliance with the new rules has been achieved, some modification of the microwave rules would clearly appear to be appropriate and we shall take action toward this end as soon as it is possible to do so.

Transition period

103. In the first report and order (par. 161) and in the notice (par. 3), we stated that we would consider in this proceeding the question whether there should be some kind of transition period before the carriage provisions are made fully applicable to microwave and non-microwave systems with limited channel capacity. To obtain relevant information, the Commission mailed a questionnaire to every known CATV operator. The questions were designed to elicit specific information with respect to the effective channel capacity of each system, the local television signals which might fall within the carriage provisions of the rules, and the number of channels in use for nonlocal television signals or other purposes. Responses were received from 131 CATVs, of which 250 were microwave-served and 781 were nonmicrowave.

104. Upon analysis of the responses, it appeared that less than 20 percent of the microwave systems were not in compliance with the carriage provisions, and half of these either had the unused channel capacity to come into compliance, or, in view of plans to expand the system, would shortly be able to comply. Less than 10 percent of the microwave systems could not comply with the rules without having to drop one or more signals currently carried. Accordingly, the Commission, on December 8, 1965, determined that there was no need to afford microwave-served systems a general delay in the application of the rules relating to carriage, and notified all common carrier and Business Radio Service licensees serving CATVs that the rules would be effective on and after February 1, 1966, to renewal applications. We further advised such licensees that the renewal application should contain a request for waiver of the rules relating to carriage, if a waiver were desired, together with the following showing:

The request for waiver should include the petition by the CATV system that the microwave licensee seek the waiver from the Commission; and the system should include a statement that it has served a copy of that petition on any television station to be affected. The request for waiver should demonstrate the hardship to the CATV system, the disruption of service to the customers of the CATV system which would result from immediate compliance with the carriage requirements, the need for the particular length of time for which the waiver is requested, and the future plans to come into compliance. Finally, the request should state whether substitution of the local station's signal on a simultaneous-only basis will be afforded during the period for which any waiver is granted where the local station is not now carried and its programming is duplicated by a more distant signal. See *Black Hills Video Corp.*, 6 Pike & Fischer, R.R. 2d 190, at 201 (par. 9).

105. With respect to the 781 nonmicrowave systems who responded to the questionnaire, it appears that 605 are already in compliance with the carriage requirements of the rules. An additional 87 systems have sufficient unused channel capacity, or are expanding their capacity, and would be able to comply without having to drop any presently carried television signal. Two systems might have to utilize a channel presently carrying FM radio and CATV originated programming, and 10 systems furnished insufficient information for any conclusion as to their situation. There remain 77 systems which would have to drop one or more television signals presently carried in order to add one or more television signals required to be carried by the rules.

106. Thus, as in the case of microwave systems, it appears that only a comparatively small percentage of the nonmicrowave systems could not comply with the carriage provisions without substituting a local for a more distant signal. In the circumstances, we believe that there is no need to provide for a general transition period by rule. The problems of individual systems will be considered on a case-by-case basis, upon a request for waiver making the same showing applicable to microwave systems. Accordingly, the rules will apply immediately to all new CATV systems commencing operations on or after their effective date, and will apply 60 days thereafter to existing systems, unless a request for waiver has been filed with the Commission. Our aim is to allow an orderly transition period for the relatively small number of systems with limited channel capacity whose viability might be jeopardized by immediate application of the rules, or where existing service to CATV subscribers would be unduly disrupted (as against the *Black Hills* type of protection (6 R.R. 2d 199, at 207 (par. 9)) during the appropriate transition period).

107. The foregoing discussion of the apparent situation with respect to carriage does not take account of 100-w translators operating in the community of the CATV. Our decision (pars. 82, 83 above) to accord high-power translators fourth priority may raise some additional channel capacity problems. While this new provision will have the same effective date, waivers may be sought by microwave and non-microwave systems either within the 60-day period or upon receipt of any request for translator carriage which gives rise to some problem.

6. Copyright suits

108. Finally, we shall make brief mention of the copyright matter because, despite our plain statements in paragraph 159 of the first report, there would still appear to be some confusion on the part of some persons as to the effect of our carriage and nonduplication rules upon the pending copyright disputes. We have stated that our decision is not intended to affect in any way the pending copyright suits involving as they do matters entirely beyond our jurisdiction. We have simply taken into account the existing practices of CATV systems and the present inability of program suppliers to control the availability of their programs via CATV. Thus, the fact that we have given the local station the right to have its signal carried over the CATV system (and not duplicated for a reasonable period), affords no defense to that system in a copyright suit. The station cannot

know broadcast or transmission rights to programing which it does not own (or as to which it has not obtained a license to do so). See *Report on Rebroadcasting Rules*, 1 (pt. 3) Pike & Fischer, R.R. 9: 1133, 1134, 1137, where we stated in connection with rebroadcast rights under section 325(a), that the section "may no longer accurately reflect present conditions" since most programs were not owned by the originating station who could not therefore legally grant the rebroadcast permission sought. In short, if the copyright suits are decided adversely to the CATV industry, we may, as stated in the first report, have to revise our rules.^{51a} We have acted now, in light of the present copyright situation, which would appear likely to obtain for some substantial period of time, and without the slightest intent of affecting the determinations to be made in the pending suits.

CONCLUSION AS TO PART I

109. The foregoing are the rules which we believe to be appropriate for all CATV systems at this time. We believe that they represent a fair balancing of the competing interests, and properly accommodate both industries and thus, the public interest "in the larger and more effective use of radio" (see. 303(g)). We recognize further revision may be called for as we gain experience in their implementation. This docket (15971) remains open with this report designated as the second report, and we shall revise the rules, as the public interest requires, in our consideration of part II or upon the basis of new information or experience (and, if appropriate, after giving notice of such proposed revisions). Finally, as in the case of all rules, we shall give further guidance through the medium of rulings directed to specific situations.

110. In light of the foregoing, we find that the public interest would be served by modification of the rules previously promulgated for microwave-served CATV systems and the adoption of rules governing all CATV systems, as set forth in the attached appendix D. Authority for the rules adopted herein is contained in sections 1, 2(a), 3(a), 4 (i) and (j), 303, 307(b), 308, 309, 310, 319, and 403 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

PART II. MAJOR MARKET, DISTANT STATIONS POLICY—PARAGRAPH 49-50 OF THE NOTICE

A. The Notice; Comments

111. In the notice, we stated (par. 49, 1 FCC 2d at p. 471):

* * * pending the outcome of this proceeding, applications for microwave facilities to be used to relay the signal of any television station to a CATV system in a community with four or more commercial channel assignments and three or more stations in operation (or with at least two stations in operation and one or more stations authorized or applied for) must be accompanied by a clear and full showing that in the particular circumstances a grant would not pose a substantial threat to the area. A like showing must be made in applications for microwave facilities to serve a

^a And, of course, stations will have to take into account the effect of any copyright decision in making requests for carriage under the present rules.

CATV system in a community where, because of its proximity to another community (or communities) having three or more existing commercial stations (e.g., within the grade B contour of such three or more commercial stations), any new UHF television station would be independent operation.

In paragraph 50, we specifically invited comment:

* * * on whether the foregoing course of action as to applications before the Commission should be extended to the nonmicrowave CATV system in the same type of situation (e.g., through a rule which would prohibit the extension of the signal of any television station beyond its grade B contour into a community with the situation described above (par. 49)), without there having been a clear and compelling showing that in the particular circumstances there is no threat to the development or maintenance of independent UHF service in the community.

112. We have considered the comments received on this important aspect. A summary of some of the comments is set out in appendix A.

B. Evaluation

113. The discussion in appendix B gives some of the highlights of the comments submitted on this aspect. The more detailed showings have, however, been considered, and will be referred to in the ensuing discussion. While these showings are pertinent, particularly with respect to the trends which are so important to our evaluation, they do not supply definitive answers to the problems before us; rather, they serve to point up the problems and, in the circumstances, to the procedures called for. We shall develop the underlying considerations at some length, and even with some repetition of the discussion in part because of the great importance of the matter. There are two central grounds for our action—(1) an economic impact ground, based on the trends in the CATV and UHF fields, and (2) a fair competition ground, based on the patently anomalous conditions under which the broadcasting and the CATV industries compete.

1. The economic impact ground

114. *The UHF trend.*—As stated in our notice, we are at a watershed in the development of UHF broadcasting. UHF broadcasting generally suffered a very serious setback in the 1950's and limped along until the passage of the all-channel receiver legislation. In enacting this "unique" legislation in 1962, Congress made the judgment that development of UHF "is not only the best but the only practicable way of achieving an adequate commercial and educational system in the United States" (H. Rept. No. 1559, 87th Cong., 2d sess., p. 4; S. Rept. No. 1526, 87th Cong., 2d sess., p. 7). Such a system would "permit all communities of appreciable size to have at least one television station as an outlet for local self-expression," provide "at least the competitive facilities in all medium-sized communities," and make provision "for at least four commercial stations in all large centers of population" (H. Rept. at p. 3). Such a fourth station might make possible a fourth national network or the formation of "FM-type networks" in television, and also would be "valuable particularly for local programming and self-expression"—an important need in many markets "because all of the available stations are network affiliates" (

et. at p. 3; S. Rept. at p. 4). Thus, as shown by the above and the compulsory sale of all-channel sets at the rate of over 9 million a year, Congress and the American public have staked a great deal on the development of UHF.

5. As we pointed out in the notice and our prior discussion, there is every present indication that the all-channel set requirement is having its desired effect, with greatly increased interest in UHF, particularly in the many applications filed for the larger cities. Thus, from the beginning of 1962 to the end of 1965, the number of UHF commercial stations on the air increased from 85 to 100, and most significant as an indication of the trend, the number of applications pending (with multiple applications for the same channel counted once) increased from 19 to 80. There are now indications of the beginning of a fourth network or of an "FM-type" network, involving UHF and VHF stations in some major markets. With this increased interest in UHF, we believe that the next few years will supply the critical answer to whether the congressional goal of a truly nationwide television system employing both UHF and VHF on an effective intermixed basis will be achieved. (See H. Rept. at p. 7; S. Rept. at p. 10.)

6. *The CATV trend.*—The CATV trend is even more pronounced, and has already been noted in our first report, paragraph 65, 38 F.C.C. ¶ 709, and in the prior discussion (pars. 31–33). As stated, the CATV growth has been explosive and gives every indication of continuing its phenomenal spurt. In 1959, there were about 550 CATV systems, in 1965 at the time of the first report, there were about 1,300 CATV systems, and today—less than a year later—it is estimated that there are 1,565 (Television Digest, Dec. 27, 1965, at p. 3). Further, there are 1,026 CATV franchises which have been recently granted but are not yet operating (*ibid.*). The number of applications for franchises is even larger—an estimated 1,958.⁵² Clearly, there is considerable substance to the statement of the official of one of the largest CATV groups, quoted in our notice (par. 39, 1 FCC 2d at p. 38):

The competition for CATV franchises is unparalleled in the history of American communications. It exceeds even the pell-mell scramble for television broadcasting permits that occurred throughout the United States in the first few months after the long television freeze in the late forties and fifties. We learn that new CATV systems are being sought or authorized at the rate of one a day * * *.

7. Equally important is the changing nature of the CATV operation. In 1959, the average CATV provided three signals to its subscribers; in 1965 the majority provided five or more signals (par. 5 first report), and the average system built today has 12-channel capacity.⁵³ There are now 20-channel systems proposed (e.g., the bold proposal in Philadelphia), with industry leaders predicting

⁵² As noted, the estimates as to franchises granted and applications vary. See pars. 31, 36 *supra*. NCTA reported recently that 1,500 applications for CATV permits had been filed in the last 12 months and that 1,200 were pending (N.Y. Times, Dec. 19, 1965). By way of estimate (e.g., TV Digest, AMST, NCTA), the figures are impressively large. In its reply comments (p. 18), AMST asserts that of 54 systems for which data was available and which began operations in 1965 (through July of 1965), only 5 were 5-channel systems; 44, or 81.5 percent were of 12-channel capacity.

that in the next 5 years "improved technology will have made the channel CATVs commonplace * * *" (Television Magazine, Dec. 1965, p. 31). There is greatly increased use of microwave facilities (from 50 systems using microwave in 1959 to 250 in early 1965 to about 450 today). The distance which signals are taken has also increased greatly (to over 665 miles). Finally, the CATV industry has shifted its attention to the larger communities, and CATV franchises have been granted or are being sought in such cities as Philadelphia, Toledo, Cleveland, San Diego, Dayton, Baltimore, Syracuse, Albany, Sacramento, Pittsburgh, Birmingham and Fort Wayne. To quote again the large CATV group (par. 39 of the notice):

First, and of overriding importance, is the shift of CATV strength to a new locus. The centers of the most intense CATV development now are in very large cities. In the past our attention was focused on the smaller markets and in these we reached about 2 percent of the Nation's television population.

But today we are in the throes of spirited competition for the development of cities such as New York, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Birmingham, Syracuse, Rochester, Wilmington, Norfolk, the entire State of Connecticut, and entire counties such as the 37 cities of Camden County, N.J., all of Montgomery and Chester Counties, Pa., etc. * * *.

The CATV applicant believes that it can be successful in such cities because it will bring better reception (particularly as to color) and, most important, the programming of important independents (e.g., the three New York independents to Philadelphia).

118. It is apparent that these two trends (UHF and CATV) raise a serious question. Both CATV and UHF broadcasting, for example, are entering the larger markets, most often in an effort to bring programming that is not now available in these markets. There are at least 163 communities or areas with UHF stations operating, authorized, or applied for which also have CATV activity. In 68 such communities or areas, there are already operating CATV systems; 10 have CATV systems franchised but not operating, and 66 have CATV applications pending. In the notice, we set out as an example the Philadelphia area, where there are now three commercial UHF stations on the air (and another one authorized) and there are several well-financed CATV applicants seeking to bring in the signals of the three New York independents. The most critical question posed is how these two trends mesh in the ensuing years.

119. We have studied the comments carefully in this respect. While they give some indications (see par. 122, *infra*), the answer remains uncertain. On the one hand, the NCTA, relying largely on the Selden report, contends that CATV in a large community such as Philadelphia can have little effect on the healthy existence of UHF stations; that, in anything, CATV will aid these stations by bringing them into homes where they might not otherwise be received. But we believe that this contention has significant defects.⁵⁴ In any event, it would apply

⁵⁴ The Selden report assumed "an optimum" of 50 percent penetration of the Philadelphia market by the CATV (but see pars. 122-123 as to the "optimum" CATV penetration) and then, based on the fact that the three New York independent stations account for 1 percent of the TV homes during prime time, arrived at the conclusion that there would be a diversion from the Philadelphia UHF stations due to CATV of only 61,450 homes out of 1.3 million TV homes in Metropolitan Philadelphia (report, pp. 84-86). As already noted (n. 19, notice) the report measures the diversion as against the total Philadelphia

a crucial consideration is whether the Seiden report is correct in belief that in the large cities, it "is not clear as to what these CATV operators will offer that makes them think that they gain substantial numbers of subscribers in such areas" (Seiden report, p. 84). In his judgment, "potential CATV markets are those areas lying 40 or more miles distance from three full network signals * * *" (id. at p. 83).

10. But very important segments of the CATV industry do not agree with the Seiden report. They are proposing to invest very large sums of money (including amounts such as \$40 million) in their belief that CATV, employing 12, 20, or even greater capacity systems, will gain very substantial audiences in these large markets. The leaders of such important CATV groups as Jerrold or Teleprompter believe that "almost all American cities—small and large—will be ready for television * * *" and, in the words of the top official of Teleprompter, "within the next decade, 85 percent of all television stations in the United States may be receiving their programs by cable rather than over the air" (Television Magazine, Dec. 1965, p. 30). Another experienced CATV operator estimated more conservatively that CATV may reach 30 to 35 million households within the next decade (Broadcasting Magazine, July 26, 1965, p. 31).

11. We do not accept the above statements as necessarily correct, even more than we accept Dr. Seiden's assertion to the contrary. The real fact is that on the record before us, it is not possible to give a definitive answer to the future growth of CATV—to whether it will achieve very substantial penetration in the major markets and, correspondingly, to what its impact will be upon UHF developments in these markets.⁵⁵

12. Indications in the materials before us would appear to indicate substantial growth and substantial impact by CATV in the large

cities, plainly ignoring the very facts upon which the analysis is based. The point is that whatever criterion is used to measure CATV impact, the same criterion should be used to measure the audience UHF would have without CATV. If, therefore, it is assumed that 9 percent of the CATV subscriber homes would, on the average, be watching the three network independent stations and would therefore be diverted from the three Philadelphia UHF stations, the resultant figure—61,450 homes—should be related not to the 1.3 million TV homes in Metropolitan Philadelphia, but rather to the average number of homes in Metropolitan Philadelphia that would be viewing the three UHF stations if there were no CATV. The audience for nonnetwork programming in Philadelphia is certainly no smaller than in New York (and indeed would undoubtedly be much smaller in the beginning). Therefore, 9 percent of the TV homes during prime time were assumed to be the number that on the average, would be watching the three Philadelphia UHF stations, this would mean a total average audience of less than 120,000 homes against which the impact of CATV of more than 60,000 homes should be measured rather than against 1.3 million TV homes. In short, the Philadelphia audience which would be attracted to the New York independent stations is a very important part of the audience at which any independent Philadelphia UHF station must aim—a critical point ignored by the Seiden report. We would also point out several other factors: (i) The potential effect on the UHF independent becomes even more serious when markets smaller than Philadelphia are concerned (see footnote 57); (ii) It is unrealistic to assume that UHF independents in such markets will have the financial base to bid for and obtain the same amount of expensive network film program as the New York VHF independents, with their much larger audience base, and thus, the CATV audience for nonnetwork programming may well not be divided equally between the UHF independents and the distant VHF ones; and (iii) the channel system would permit the importation of the New York network stations which would also contribute to diversion of audience during the 30-45 percent of time these stations are presenting nonnetwork fare.

As stated, the CBS study indicated that it had not included " * * * a group of applications for CATV systems in communities with three more than adequate services * * * applications for franchises * * * in places like Albany, Syracuse, Galveston, Philadelphia, and Cleveland * * *". If these systems are established and thrive, it is probable that the potential for community antenna systems far exceeds anything that we have seen about thus far and, in fact, much of the country could ultimately become CATV territory." (CBS comments, exhibit A, pp. 16-17.) Thus, CBS focus was on the old or traditional CATV and not the new developing trend in the industry.

markets. Thus, Midwest Television, the licensee of a San Diego station, submitted a study made by an independent research organization in late June 1965, of the San Diego area, the 51st market (A ranking on net weekly circulation), with three VHF stations; CATV systems which carry these stations and all seven Los Angeles VHF stations without nonduplication treatment. The study indicated that the CATV systems, with a present total of roughly 10,000, are adding subscribers at a rapid rate. Thus, in one section where CATV had been available for only 3 months, more than 36 percent of the homes had already been wired for CATV; as of late June 1965, 60 percent of the CATV subscribers interviewed had been subscribers for less than 3 months (Midwest comments, dockets Nos. 15971, 148, and 15233, pp. 24, 28). But this study is obviously too fragmentary to be conclusive on this important question. The study also indicates a very considerable impact upon the local stations. See paragraphs 40-41, *supra*.⁵⁶

123. There is no doubt as to the seriousness of the question posed. The new UHF stations face a difficult road; we would expect, with the passage of time and thus the build-up of all-channel sets, and related endeavors, that these new operations would be successful. But if a CATV, with 12- or 20-channel capacity, can obtain very substantial numbers of subscribers in these same markets (by which we mean percentages of 50 percent or over), the UHF stations might face a very difficult hurdle. The audience for nonnetwork stations is limited (about a 10-percent share in most markets in the prime time) and this limited audience might be greatly reduced since very substantial numbers of people interested in viewing the nonnetwork programming would be watching the distant independents (e.g., those of New York or Los Angeles). We think this follows as a matter of common sense, since these established big city VHF independents certainly have the ability to bid for and acquire the expensive, attractive nonnetwork programming. Any gain in better reception of the UHF signals might be far outweighed by the splintering of the limited audience for independent programming. The UHF stations will in any event gain a very substantial audience in these markets, through the operation of the all-channel receiver law. While the CATV might bring them a little sooner or with somewhat better reception into some TV homes, it would appear to do so at the cost of fragmenting greatly the limited audience interested in viewing nonnetwork programming in the prime listening hours. See note 54, analyzing the Philadelphia situation on the basis of a 50-percent CATV penetration.⁵⁷ As pointed out, a

⁵⁶ To the same effect, see the address of Mr. George Blechta of Nielsen at the July 1965 NCTA convention, where Mr. Blechta referred to an eastern television market "where the sample indicated that one-third of the viewers are CATV subscribers and that the local stations have a combined share of audience of 85 percent among non-CATV homes in contrast to a share of 'less than one-half' among CATV homes." (Sponsor Magazine, July 1965, p. 14.)

⁵⁷ Further, Philadelphia is the fourth largest market in the country. But in smaller, even though still major, markets, similar analyses raise even more serious questions. Take the Sacramento-Stockton market (the 27th in ARB ranking) having 300,400 TV homes in the metropolitan area, 63 percent or about 189,000 metropolitan area homes on the average are watching television in prime time; without CATV, the UHF would do well to get a prime-time audience of 15,000 homes. While this audience, on the basis of our experience, would normally appear sufficient to support operation, obviously, significant division of the audience by CATV could be a serious matter. Yet CATV systems could be in the VHF independents from San Francisco and, as we understand, from Los Angeles. This example, dealing with a major market, could be multiplied many times.

or application provision would afford virtually no relief, since non-network programming is not distributed on anything like a simultaneous nationwide basis.⁵⁸ The rise in advertising demand for television is also pertinent to this question; as noted (footnote 30), there are countervailing considerations which, at the least, require that this be considered in the context of the particular situation (e.g., in Philadelphia there are three and possibly four new stations to share increased advertiser demand). Finally, we point out that it is not just a matter of causing the demise of the independent UHF stations; if these stations' revenues are substantially reduced because of increased CATV activity, so that they do not have the financial base to program effectively, the result is still a detriment to the public interest in the larger and more effective use of radio" (Communications Act, sec 303(g)). In short, the problem posed is whether, if CATV succeeds greatly—for example, to the 50- to 85-percent figure predicted by its optimistic proponents—there is correspondingly a grave danger to UHF broadcasting.

14. It has been urged that we simply ignore the problem and let the markets in the major markets decide between CATV and the UHF broadcast stations. But for reasons already developed, such a course would be inconsistent with our statutory responsibilities and might lead to results inconsistent with public interest in a number of respects:

(i) CATV does not now serve the rural areas, and it has not been established that it can practically do so. If CATV were to undermine the healthy development of UHF, it would mean that people in the urban or more built-up areas would be getting additional service at the expense of those in the rural areas; we think that such a result is patently inconsistent with the public interest and the act's goals.

(ii) CATV is a form of pay-TV, in the sense that one must pay to obtain the television service. There are substantial numbers of people who either cannot afford to or do not wish to pay for television.⁵⁹ If then the CATV blocks development of UHF broadcasting, it would again mean that some people would be getting additional service at the expense of those who cannot afford or are unwilling to pay for such service.

(iii) Most important, CATV does not serve as an outlet for local self-expression. It does not present local discussions, the local ministers or educators, the local political candidates, etc. If events in the major markets should establish that CATV has prevented the healthy maintenance of UHF broadcasting, it would mean that, for example, New York independents would have been substituted for Philadelphia independents. We think that would be contrary to sound allocation principles, long established in section 307(b) of the act. It would be a clear frustration of the congressional purpose recently stated of making available in areas such as Philadelphia additional broadcast stations to meet the "important needs" for "local programming and self-expression" (par. 41, notice). It would also undermine the goal of a fourth national network built upon these additional stations (par. 41, notice).

⁵⁸For would extension of the UHF station's signal beyond its grade B contour by CATV systems compensate for fragmentation within that contour by CATV systems having very substantial penetration. We note that CATV systems tend to bring in the distant big city independents (since such stations constitute a better sales point in obtaining subscribers) than the new UHF stations. In any event, an independent's source of revenue is the local and national spot business, as to which the metropolitan area rating plays a very significant role. As shown by the above discussion, that rating could be seriously affected by the event of very substantial CATV penetration.

⁵⁹Thus, even the CATV industry estimates that on an industrywide basis CATV systems in existence have achieved about 55 percent level of the total number of TV homes in the markets served, and that this figure will ultimately rise to 70 percent. (Television Magazine, Dec. 1965, p. 30).

125. If the New York independents sought translators to place their signals over the Philadelphia area, it could not seriously be argued that we should grant such applications on the ground that while they may be destructive of congressionally established goals, events in the market place should be allowed to give the answer. The matter is truly really different here. The Commission has jurisdiction to "establish areas or zones to be served by any station" (303(h)), to make a "fair and equitable distribution of facilities among the several States, communities (sec. 307(b)), and "to perform any and all acts, make such rules and regulations, and issue such orders, not inconsistent with this act, as may be necessary in the execution of its functions" (401). If then we sit back, even though we have the jurisdiction, the authority, and the responsibility to carry out the congressional policies, and do not thoroughly explore the serious question posed, we would be simply abdicating our responsibility "to promote the larger and more effective use of radio in the public interest" (sec. 303(g)).

126. To summarize, we have reached no final conclusion in this area—i.e., the effect of CATV development in the major market on UHF broadcasting. But we have concluded that there is a substantial problem of great significance to the public interest, which must be thoroughly explored. A critical consideration would appear to be the question of CATV's growth in the major market, since (i) if the growth is of a high order, its impact on UHF development may be very serious; and (ii) based on present considerations, the latter consequence will not serve "the public interest in the larger and more effective use of radio." In view of these conclusions, we think that the course of action is clear. We must thoroughly examine the question of CATV entry into the major markets, and authorize such entry only upon a hearing record giving reasonable assurance that the consequences of such entry will not thwart the achievement of the congressional goals. We cannot sit back and let CATV move signals about as it wishes, and then if the answer some years from now is that CATV can and does undermine the development of UHF, simply say, "I'm well, so sorry that we didn't look into the matter."

127. We have focused in the above discussion on the independent UHF station. But as interested parties such as Storer have stated, there is also a problem with respect to the new UHF station in a market with two VHF stations. The UHF station does not necessarily obtain a full line of network programming in such markets; either initially or for a considerable period of time, it may be dependent to a very substantial extent on nonnetwork fare. Further, several parties have expressed the fear that because of CATV, such new UHF stations will not be able to obtain a primary network affiliation. Finally, we note that to a significant degree, whether rightly or wrongly, CATV penetration would appear to have a discouraging effect on the entry of new UHF stations (or on the substantial expenditures which may be made for the high tower and power necessary for an effective operation). Permittees of several new stations have set out their fears of the consequence of CATV importation of distant stations from New York, Los Angeles, etc. To give but two examples:

2 F.C.C. 2d

(i) The permittee of the new UHF station in Sacramento has informed the Sacramento City Council that the importation of outside signals from San Francisco-Oakland and Los Angeles, as proposed, would make it impossible for the UHF station to survive (joint comments, p. 15).

(ii) [Regardless of whether Jerrold's proposed Jacksonville CATV system will be subject to carriage and nonduplication], it is your permittee's belief that should Jerrold introduce through its proposed system the programs of the three television networks, it will be impossible for WJKS-TV to obtain the network affiliation required for its survival. (Statement of Rust Craft Broadcasting Co., permittee of UHF station WJKS-TV, Jacksonville, Fla.; AMST comments, p. 71.)

The above examples are not cited at this point for the correctness of the attitude taken toward CATV penetration in the particular situation, but rather for the attitude.⁶⁰ We think it important, in view of the critical period facing UHF, that the UHF entrepreneur be given a forum for thorough exploration of this serious problem.

8. The contentions of some of the parties with respect to pay-TV are also pertinent here. Several parties (e.g., ABC, Westinghouse, AMST) have stated that CATV, particularly if it succeeds in the larger cities, can readily branch out into pay-TV (for example, by providing that one channel will be "original" programming available only for a specific additional charge—a form of pay-TV somewhat like that to the Bartlesville experiment in 1957-58). The parties assert that whether or not pay-TV is desirable, it should be initiated only after full consideration in an appropriate proceeding and not "come through the back door" through CATV operations and profits based on the sale of the broadcast industry's product.

9. Whether a form of pay-TV operation will result from CATV is uncertain and would appear to depend again very largely upon the growth factor, particularly in the larger cities which would naturally be the backbone of any wire-pay-TV operation. But we would agree that in the circumstances its authorization should stem from the Commission (or the Congress) after appropriate proceedings. For, what is involved is not the strictly wire-pay-TV proposals such as recently attempted in California. A hybrid CATV-pay-TV operation would be based, in an integral and substantial fashion, on use of broadcast signals (to provide the economic base for the pay-TV "fringing"), and such use of broadcast signals should be allowed only if it is found to be in the public interest. We have petitions now under consideration, which seek the authorization of pay-TV on a regular basis using broadcast facilities, perhaps only in the UHF portion of the spectrum. It is clear that until resolution of the very important policy issues, pay-TV operations based in substantial part on use of broadcast signals is inappropriate. Since here again the critical factor is the growth of CATV in the larger cities, we think that this is a good reason for the policy and procedure we have adopted, since the procedure will be especially applicable to such cities. We intend to explore thoroughly the relationship, if any, of proposed CATV operating in the larger markets and the development of pay-TV in that market. This is a matter which is also involved in part II of

⁶⁰We note also that the contrary opinion has been expressed by some new UHF entrepreneurs (namely, that CATV operation will aid, rather than hurt them).

this proceeding, and will be the subject of a specific legislative recommendation of the Commission. See paragraph 153, *infra*.

130. We believe that the foregoing discussion, showing the serious question posed by the potential effect of very substantial CATV development upon UHF development and the possible adverse consequences to the public interest, demonstrates the need for the market, distant signals policy which we have adopted. Before discussing that policy (see pt. 3, *infra*), we shall turn to a second growth which also, in our judgment, supports the need for the policy.

2. Fair competition

131. We have previously discussed this "fair competition" growth in connection with the nonduplication requirement. See first report, paragraphs 52-57, 28 F.C.C. 683, 703-706. That discussion, which will not be fully repeated, is pertinent here. As shown, the CATV industry is growing at a tremendous pace, with a changing nature (entering into major markets, with 12- or 20-channel systems, bringing the signal of big city independents such as those of New York and Los Angeles). If the CATV should achieve substantial penetration of these communities (50 percent or over), the result might be most serious to the new UHF independents in these same areas. This points up for critical consideration—that the nonduplication requirement will be of virtually no assistance, since what is involved is the establishment of a healthy maintenance of *independent* stations, and nonnetwork syndicated or film programming is not distributed on a simultaneous nationwide basis. We therefore shall reexamine the fair competition considerations in the context of the present problem—the CATV and UHF trends and the need to develop a policy or procedure because of these trends.

132. A television station normally obtains the right to exhibit nonnetwork programs by outright payments to program suppliers, from whom the station usually secures the exclusive right to exhibit the programs within a particular geographical area and for a particular length of time. This exclusivity reflects the judgment that presentation by others of a program such as a feature film within the station's market within some period of time obviously reduces the audience and the value of the program to the station. As we noted, the amount and kind of exclusivity that can be created is restricted by the antitrust laws. But those laws permit the creation of substantial exclusivity as a normal incident of the program distribution process, and this exclusivity is maintained, in large part, through the operation of section 325 of the Communications Act, which forbids the rebroadcasting of any station's signal without the consent of the originating station.

133. We have pointed out how the CATV system presently stands outside of the above program distribution process (pars. 54-55, first report, 38 F.C.C. at p. 704):

[The CATV] has not been found subject to the requirements of section 325. [footnote omitted] It does not compete for network affiliation, nor does it have access to syndicated programs, feature films, or sports events. It is not concerned with bidding against competing broadcasters for the right to exhibit these programs nor with bargaining with program suppliers for time and territorial exclusivity. Moreover, because the distant station whose sig-

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is carried has no control over the CATV's use of its signal, the question of whether a program should be exhibited through CATV facilities in any particular market cannot be the subject of bargaining or agreement between the distant station and the program supplier—although the question of whether the same program should be rebroadcast in that market by a television station or a translator can be, and often is, the subject of such bargaining and agreement.

This is not the usual competitive situation. The CATV system and the local broadcaster provide the public with access to the same basic product—the programs created or sold for distribution through broadcasting stations. The broadcaster, however, must himself obtain access to the product in the program distribution market, with its various restrictions and conditions. The CATV operator need not enter this market at all.

34. The anomalies which result from this situation are even more marked in the case of the independent station, particularly in light of the recent CATV trend. Procuring attractive programming which will interest viewers is, of course, the most vital concern of the new UHF independents. For example, such stations may bid for and obtain exclusive rights to an attractive feature film package. No other station in the same market could show these films—but a CATV system, which never entered the bidding, might well bring in these same films from a distant market. If the CATV reaches very significant proportions—50 percent or more, the result is the loss of the exclusive right to which so much was paid and upon which so much may have been staked. And here we stress again that without the financial sustenance from entertainment programs, a station has no adequate economic base to serve as an outlet for local expression for all the people in its service area.

35. When the situation is viewed on an overall basis, rather than from the viewpoint of individual programs, the result is equally anomalous. The CATV seeks to secure as great a number of subscribers as possible in these major markets, aiming for a figure well over 50 percent if possible. Since the people in these markets have three full network services, it seeks to attract such a large number of subscribers, in large part, by bringing in the independent programming of distant city stations such as the New York or Los Angeles independents. And it obtains such programming by simply paying a common carrier to carry to it the signals of these distant stations (or by itself erecting a tall antenna on an appropriate high elevation to receive the signals and then relay them with suitable amplification along the way to the subscriber). The new UHF station also seeks to attract as wide an audience as possible in these same markets by bringing in attractive network programming. But the UHF station cannot, either by means of a common carrier, its own microwave relay, or a tall antenna, decide that the best way to obtain such programming is simply to bring it in whole or in part, the programming of the New York independents. The established distribution process given congressional recognition in section 325(a), proscribes such conduct. (See letter to Mr. Martin E. Firestone, dated Dec. 16, 1965, FCC 65-1107.)⁶¹ Both the

⁶¹ As another example, in 1965, station KWOA desired to rebroadcast the signal of station WTCO, to present the play-by-play broadcasts of the Minnesota Twins' baseball games. Station WCCO refused rebroadcast consent, largely because it placed a good signal into the air in question. This Commission determined that in view of WCCO's response and the particular circumstances, no action was called for. See letter to Mr. James J. Wychor, dated July 22, 1965.

broadcaster and the CATV thus have the same objective—providing as large a segment of the public as possible in these major markets with access to nonnetwork programs. The question therefore arises why the CATV should operate under one set of competitive rules and the broadcaster under an entirely different set. On its face, this competitive situation would appear to be a most unfair one.

136. Illustrations in the sports area further point up this anomalous situation and are particularly pertinent in view of the importance of sports programming, both to the CATV and broadcasting. The broadcast station (or its network) bids for the right to exhibit sports programming (see, e.g., \$37.6 million bid for CBS for the 2-year right to show NFL football games; *Broadcasting Magazine*, Jan. 3, 1965, 124); even then, those rights are at times circumscribed by blacked-out requirements (during home games), and other conditions permitted by Congress or the antitrust laws. See, e.g., Public Law 87-331. The broadcaster must operate in accordance with these established industry conditions. But the same sports program that is unavailable to the broadcast station is presently made available to the station's audience by CATV systems. In the words of the president and general manager of Wisconsin Valley Television Corp. (AMST common carrier attachment B, p. 10, quoting the House CATV hearings on H.R. 77-415):

Another serious problem: In Wausau, Wis., because of our proximity to Green Bay, WSAU-TV is blacked out of the Green Bay Packers football games. This I can understand on behalf of the National Football League and the Green Bay Packers * * *. I'm not allowed to carry the games. Any cable system can reach to any area and get these games—some via microwave. Then these games can be moved into WSAU-TV's area. Can our station run a Sunday without the football game, while the cable system is running big ads in the local newspaper: "Get total television on cable television."

Now I would like to deliver total television but because of laws and regulations, I'm not able to give total television. The cable system, with no laws, no rules, no regulations, can deliver to my audience, by FCC definition of tower height and power, much more television than I can deliver them because of the stricture that I must operate under * * *."

137. The answer is sometimes given that the CATV system is simply a master TV antenna, and therefore on this ground should be allowed such different competitive conditions. But this answer does not withstand analysis. A CATV system which proposes to employ microwave to bring in signals 400 or 500 miles away is not a master TV antenna service. It cannot seriously be argued that CATV proposals to bring the New York independents to Dayton or the Los Angeles independents to Dallas-Fort Worth represent master TV antenna arrangements. Nor, whatever its validity in many instances, can the argument appropriately be made when a very tall antenna is employed on a high elevation, with many miles of cable and electronic gear, to distribute the distant signals. In any event, the question remains: Is the distant signal is freely available for use in the area, as the CATV argues, why is it not just as freely available for use by the broadcast stations in the area (e.g., through a tall antenna on a high elevation)? Clearly, however, it is inconsistent with all notions of propriety to say that a Philadelphia or Baltimore UHF station may make whatever use it desires, without permission or payment of the programming cost.

over the New York independents. See section 325(a), and its legislative history. The result of such "freedom of access" would be inequity and chaos.⁶²

8. Here again we have reached no final determination but rather concluded that this is a question warranting thorough exploration in the hearing process. It may be that whatever the disparate conditions for operation, there is no need for concern because the CATV will not significantly affect the development or healthy maintenance of UHF television broadcast service. But as stated we cannot make that determination on the record now before us. It follows that on this ground also, there is need for a procedure pegged to full exploration of the issue in the context of an evidentiary hearing.

The major market, distant signal policy, and procedure

9. We have previously found that CATV can make an important contribution to the public interest, and we adhere to that judgment. CATV, along with other auxiliary services, has made a significant contribution to meeting the public demand for television service in areas too small in population to support a local station or too remote in distance or isolated by terrain to receive regular or good off-the-air reception. It has also contributed to meeting the public's demand for reception of multiple program choices, particularly the three network services. In thus contributing to the realization of some of the most important goals which have governed our allocations regarding CATV, CATV has clearly served the public interest "in the larger and more effective use of radio." And, even in the major market, there may be no dearth of service (e.g., Philadelphia, with its full-time network services, and four independent UHF stations either on the air or authorized), CATV may, we recognize, increase viewing opportunities, either by bringing in programming not otherwise available or, what is more likely, bringing in programming locally available but at times different from those presented by the local stations. But this contribution (and related ones such as better reception, etc.) should not be made at the expense of healthy maintenance of UHF operations. We have reached no determination on this critical matter. Rather, we have decided that a serious question is presented whether CATV operations in the major markets may be of such nature or significance as to have an adverse economic impact on the establishment or maintenance of UHF stations or to require existing stations to face substantial competition of a patently unfair type. We have also indicated our concern with the relationship, if any, of proposed CATV operations on the large markets and the development of pay-TV in those markets.

10. Our policy and implementing procedure are therefore addressed squarely to these serious questions. The basic thrust of con-

⁶² The answer that the CATV does not have a "free ride" in view of the cost of the cable itself, misses the point, since the cost of the disseminating system is no basis for exemption from observance of the fundamental distribution process by which the program product is obtained. Both the CATV and the UHF station have substantial costs of construction, maintenance and operation. Thus, the most recent UHF station in Chicago, Ill., had a construction cost of about \$3,000,000, with substantial estimated yearly operating expenses, including those sums allocated to programming costs. The UHF station cannot appropriate the programming of the New York independents, without consent or payment, no matter what its costs are.

gressional policy in the Communications Act is to resolve significant questions, in the context of appropriate evidentiary hearings, before consequences possibly adverse to the public interest develop. (Cf. sec. 309 of the Communications Act.) We think that policy should be applied to this situation. We have determined that we have jurisdiction over CATV necessary to carry out the provisions of the Communications Act (such as secs. 1, 4(i), 303 (g), (r), (s), and 307(b)). It is important, we think, to exercise that jurisdiction with respect to CATV operations in the major markets, so as to insure that such operations will be consistent with the public interest. And to accomplish this, it is necessary to examine thoroughly such operations before they become established or entrenched. Once entrenched, it is difficult, if not wholly impracticable in the light of the disruption which would result, to take effective action or to attempt to roll back the situation, if it should develop or be shown that the CATV operation is inconsistent with the public interest.

141. We shall accordingly follow a procedure whereby the signal of a television broadcast station shall not be extended beyond its grade into the top 100 major markets (as ranked by ARB on the basis of net weekly circulation of the largest station in the market) by a CATV system which has obtained a franchise for operation in such a market, except upon a showing made in an evidentiary hearing that such operation would be consistent with the public interest, and particularly the establishment and healthy maintenance of UHF television broadcast service. In this way, the Commission will be able to explore in depth the details of the proposed CATV operation, the market studies which have been made relating to it (by either the CATV or broadcast groups in the area), the present and potential picture as to television broadcasting in the market, the positions and showings of the interested CATV and broadcast parties, the possible plans and potential of the proposed CATV operation for pay-TV, and other important facets. After such exploration, the Commission will be in a position to make an informed judgment directed to the facts of each particular case.

142. We believe that the procedure which we have adopted is the most and best suited to promote the public interest, taking into account both the development of the broadcast and the CATV industries. It is in line with the urging of several parties that what is needed is an evidentiary hearing. While the hearing urged has usually been of an overall nature, we believe it best to consider these important matters in the context of the particular request and the particular situation.

143. We recognize that the evidentiary hearing may consume some significant period of time. But as stated, the public interest requires thorough exploration of the very important issues raised: they cannot be sloughed aside or the answers lightly assumed. Further, the requirement for an evidentiary hearing has been confined to the top 100 markets, where there is generally no dearth of service and where UHF services are coming on the air. For example, in Philadelphia there are three VHF network affiliated stations, three UHF in-

pendents on the air, with a fourth authorized. In the markets below 10, where there may be a greater present need for additional television service, the general *requirement* for evidentiary hearing is inapplicable. See paragraph 146, *infra*.

44. We have selected the top 100 markets for special attention because it is in these markets that UHF stations or wire pay-TV based upon CATV operations are most likely to develop and therefore the problems raised are most acute.⁶³ Further, as noted, any delay in commencement of CATV operation because of the necessity for evidentiary hearings is mitigated by the consideration that these markets generally have a considerable amount of presently available and prospective new service. Finally, the top 100 markets include roughly 90 percent of the television homes in this country. Our policy therefore focuses on the critically important areas.

45. Admittedly, there can be substantial problems affecting the public interest where the CATV system proposes to extend the signals of broadcast stations beyond the grade B contour into areas below the top 100 markets. But there are differences between the two situations which call for different procedures. In markets below the top 10, the independent UHF (or VHF) station is much less likely to develop; the stations in such markets are apt to be three or less in number and network affiliated. This means, in turn, that the non-duplication provision is effective (since network programming will be significantly involved), and protection of a station's network programming should contribute very substantially to insuring its continued viability. It would appear that network programming will continue to be available in such markets; in the unlikely event that such programming becomes unavailable because of CATV impact, there would appear to be other appropriate remedial action which can be taken. Further, it is in the markets below 100 that there may be underserved areas where CATV can make its most valuable and traditional contribution. Indeed, the market division which we adopt is really a division between CATV in its traditional sense and the new, revolutionary facet of CATV, as posed by its entry into the major markets. It is the latter which peculiarly requires the most thorough examination in the context of an evidentiary hearing.

46. We think, therefore, that a fair compromise is to draw the line as to special attention (i.e., evidentiary hearings) at the 100th market, and below that point, simply to take such action as may be

⁶³ Some question may arise as to whether a particular system is located in a market coming within the top 100. For clarification, we have specified that the above provisions are applicable to a CATV located in a community coming within the predicted grade A contour of any station in one of the top 100 markets. We have employed the grade A contour of a station since, while stations often are located at different sites or have different powers (and thus different A contours), these grade A service areas in the same market have a tendency of becoming fairly close to one another over a period of time. In any event, we think that this is an appropriate criterion since it encompasses the essential area upon which new UHF broadcast operations in the market would be based, without including the much larger areas falling within the grade B contours, as has been urged by some in this proceeding. Because our effort is to carve out such an essential area upon which new UHF development would be vitally based, we have employed the predicted grade A contour; one of the predicted contour should also have the advantage of definiteness and easier administration. In the unusual instance where the requirement may be inappropriate, waiver can be sought. Where a CATV system is located within the top 100 markets when a hearing is commenced, the hearing will be continued even if these markets change in a subsequent ARB rating. We note that the 1965 ARB listing makes no change in the 1964 listing of the top 100 markets except as to relative standing within the 100.

necessary in the public interest, upon appropriate petitions bringing substantial questions to our attention. See paragraph 98. We shall not necessarily hold evidentiary hearing in connection with such petitions in the smaller markets. Such hearings could be a considerable burden both upon the CATV operation and the broadcaster in the small communities. See paragraph 78, first report, 38 F.C.C. page 714. Indeed, the hearing might thwart the initiation of needed service. Therefore, while hearings might be held in some instances, we have devised flexible procedures generally to treat expeditious petitions or requests involving the markets below 100, since we recognize that to hold hearings upon each such petition or request might be burdensome to all parties involved and to the public.⁶⁴

147. *The question of grandfathering.*—On February 15, 1966, we issued a public notice giving the essence of our determination in this respect. Systems not yet in operation on February 15, 1966, and proposing to extend the service of a station beyond its grade B contour into one of the top 100 markets will come within the scope of our major market procedure, and must make the necessary showing in an evidentiary hearing. In view of the very great desirability of avoiding the disruption stemming from action applicable to an operating system and the strong public interest considerations underlying our policy, we think good cause exists for immediate effectiveness of the major market rules upon their publication, as suggested by some of the parties. A line must be drawn as to "grandfathering," and we believe it appropriate to do so upon the basis of operation on the date of the public notice. A system which has gone into operation by extending signal beyond their grade B contour to subscribers in the top 100 markets for the first time after that date, would be subject of a cease-and-desist proceeding.⁶⁵ Since we shall not "grandfather" systems coming into operation after February 15, 1966, the effectiveness of our action, practically speaking, is geared to that date. We could follow normal procedure and wait until 30 days after publication in the Federal Register to proceed against systems commencing operation after February 15, 1966, in the top 100 markets. But we do not believe that this hiatus would serve any useful purpose or the public interest. For, in this interval, a system might commence operation after the February 15 date and make "drops" to a significant number of subscribers, all of whose CATV service could be ended when the Commission institutes cease-and-desist proceedings as to the CATV operation. In the circumstances here, where "grandfathering" is pegged to the February 15 date, we think that orderly procedure and the desirability of avoiding disruption as much as possible call for immediate Commission action.

⁶⁴ As previously stated (n. 51, first report, 3 F.C.C. at p. 715), we will, as required by the Communications Act and consistently with its procedural specifications (e.g., sec. 309) examine any question raised in connection with individual microwave applications which bears on the public interest in the particular applications involved.

⁶⁵ We recognize that this may catch some systems just prior to the commencement of operation. But this will always be true in the case of any policy in this area, and in any event, if the policy is to be effective and achieve the above described goals, it must be implemented immediately. We also point out that parties have known of the Commission's proposals for a major market procedure since Apr. 23, 1965 (and of the counterproposal since July 26, 1965). The notice expressly "• • • put all persons who now operate who propose to operate CATV systems on notice that CATV operations may be subject to Commission regulation of the nature indicated, whether microwave is used or not" (notice par. 65, 1 FCC 2d at 477). Finally, in the unusual case, we can consider the matter upon petition for waiver.

rather than the Commission waiting passively on the sidelines for the 30-day period to expire. Good cause therefore exists to make the rules of the major market procedure effective upon publication, so that we may proceed forthwith against any system operating in contravention of those rules.⁶⁶

48. The essential purpose of our policy is to take hold of the future—to insure a situation where we or the Congress, if it chooses, can make the fundamental decisions in the public interest upon the basis of adequate knowledge. So far as the application of our major market distant signal policy, we do not intend to disrupt the existing situation, by withdrawing from any CATV subscriber any signal which he was receiving as of February 15, 1966, in the top 100 markets or which he is presently receiving in other markets.⁶⁷ Based on our experience, we regard such a withdrawal as impractical and, in any event, we note that we have not made any basic policy judgment which would warrant such undue disruption. We therefore shall “grandfather” all systems which were in operation upon February 15, 1966 (the release date of the above mentioned public notice), to the extent that such systems need not make the showing in section 74.1107 to continue to carry to subscribers signals beyond their grade B contour, which were being supplied to those subscribers on that date. But any addition of a new distant signal on an existing system in the top 100 markets would come within the major market policy.

49. The foregoing dealt with grandfathering. We turn now to the question whether systems extending signals beyond their grade B contour on February 15, 1966, into one of the top 100 markets, are to continue to add subscribers in new geographical areas. Such systems, which may recently have gone into operation without regard to the Commission's explicit notice of the pendency of the paragraph 50 proposal, may have relatively few subscribers. In view of the public interest considerations upon which our policy is based, we do not believe that such a system should be allowed to expand from a few thousand subscribers in one part or suburb of a community to the potential of hundreds of thousands throughout the entire community, until there has been resolution of the serious issues presented (in an evidentiary hearing).⁶⁸ While there may be a disruptive factor in limiting CATV growth in the particular circumstances which should, of course, be taken into account, we believe that if at all practicable, appropriate geographical areas should be delineated, with the CATV growth limited to such areas until resolution of the issues. The problem calls for case-by-case judgment in the particular community as to the feasibility of action along the foregoing lines and the appropriate geographical area or areas. Our judgment will therefore be made upon the petition, if any, of the local broadcaster(s) objecting to the

Similar good-cause grounds are applicable to the provision of the rule dealing with markets ranked below the 100th (74.1107(c)), since the public interest would not be served by permitting situations to continue to develop which raise substantial questions and may result in either disruption of service or inability to take an otherwise desirable action because of the factor of disruption. We shall also make effective upon publication the procedural provisions (secs. 74.1105, 74.1109) which relate to sec. 74.1107.

As to the application of our carriage and nonduplication rules, see pars. 49, 68, 106. And certainly where a new franchise or amendment of an existing franchise after Feb. 15, 1966, to operate or extend the operation of the CATV system in the same general area is involved, the requirement of an evidentiary hearing will be applicable.

geographical extension of the CATV system to new areas, and responses thereto. The petition may also request temporary relief in the event an evidentiary hearing is found to be appropriate; the Commission will determine, upon the basis of the showing and responses in the particular case, whether such temporary relief is called for, and if so, its nature. In view of the nature of the problem, the Commission will give expedited treatment to petitions in this area. Finally, we wish to stress one important facet: We have previously put all parties on notice as to the pendency of our proposal and have now put parties on notice that there should not be expansion of major market systems from a few thousand subscribers to a very substantial number of subscribers until resolution of the public interest issues posed. We expect CATV operators to heed this notice and not to attempt to circumvent orderly consideration of any petition in this respect by an extraordinary effort to wire up the community or a substantial portion of it. In any event, we are requiring the submission of data showing the extent of construction of the system as of February 15, 1966. While we expect the ordinary wiring operations to have continued since that date, any extraordinary wiring efforts or entry into patently new geographical areas (e.g., extension of a system from a suburb into the main community) will be at the risk of the system and will not be accorded weight in the judgment to be made.

150. As we gain more knowledge in this important area, particularly from the hearings being held, we shall revise or terminate the procedure, as the experience indicates. The present rules are our best judgment of what the public interest now calls for. We recognize that they may not perfectly fit every situation, and repeat that should they be inadequate or unduly burdensome in individual cases, special action or waiver can be obtained upon an appropriate showing. *United States v. Storer Broadcasting Co.*, 351 U.S. 192.

151. Finally, we stress that the rules do not halt CATV service or growth. With the possible exception of the applicability of our carriage rules (see par. 66), the CATV viewing public will not be deprived of any distant signal service which it was receiving as of February 15, 1966. CATV will not be precluded from bringing new service to underserved areas or from bringing better reception in cities such as New York. With possibly only the rarest exception, CATV activity which does not involve extension of a signal beyond its grade B contour may freely continue.⁶⁹ CATV expansion into markets below the top 100 may also continue and will be the subject of Commission scrutiny only upon petition in a particular case. Thus, we have confined our special attention to the area of most concern—the top 100 markets where UHF stations are most likely to be coming into existence. And, in line with our present general policy in dealing with microwave applications (see par. 49, notice, 1 F.C.C. 2d at p. 471)

⁶⁹ If two major markets each fall within one another's grade B contour (e.g., Washington and Baltimore), this does not mean that there is no question as to the carriage by a Baltimore CATV system of the signals of Washington; for in doing so and thus equalizing the quality of the more distant Washington signals, it might be changing the viewing habits of the Baltimore population and thus affecting the development of the Baltimore Independent UHF station or stations. Such instances rarely arise, and can, we think, be dealt with by appropriate petition or Commission consideration in the unusual case where a problem of this nature might arise.

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we have specified no "freeze" but rather a full exploration of the facts in each case, so that we may make an informed judgment on this most important question. We believe that this is a reasonable way to proceed, and that the public interest requires no less a procedure.

52. *Legislative proposals.*—The foregoing discussion treated matters in part I and paragraph 50 of the notice of proposed rulemaking. The remaining matters in part II of the notice will be considered on the basis of the comments filed in that part and the experience gained. For the reason also, this report is designated as the second report. We turn now to a brief discussion of the legislative proposals which we believe are desirable.

53. There are four areas which we shall urge to the Congress as particularly warranting its attention:

(i) As we stated in the notice, we are clearly concerned here with new and important questions of policy and law in the communications field. We therefore state again that we would welcome congressional guidance as to policy and congressional clarification of our authority in all respects in this field. See notice, paragraph 31, 1 FCC 2d at page 465.

(ii) We believe that congressional consideration of the pay-TV aspects of CATV is particularly called for. For the reasons stated in paragraphs 128-129, we shall urge that Congress prohibit the origination of program or other material by a CATV system, with such limitations or exceptions as are deemed appropriate. A hybrid CATV-pay-TV operation would be based, in an integral and substantial fashion, on use of broadcast signals, and such use of the broadcast industry's signals would appear to be both inequitable and inconsistent with the public interest. It is inequitable because it is clearly unfair to use the broadcast industry's product as a basis for wire-pay-TV operation which could adversely effect that industry or indeed supplant it. More important, were wire-pay-TV to supplant free television broadcast service, it would be inconsistent with the public interest, since it would mean that the public would receive, at least in large part, the same service it now does, but for a fee. Finally, we are considering petitions seeking the authorization of pay-TV in the broadcast spectrum.

(iii) We believe that Congress should consider whether there should be a provision similar to section 325(a) applicable to CATV systems (i.e., whether, to what extent, and under what circumstances CATV systems should be required to obtain the consent of the originating broadcast station for the retransmission of the signal by the CATV system). We have described the presently anomalous conditions under which the broadcasting and CATV industries compete. See paragraphs 131-138.⁷⁰ Several parties

The problem is further pointed up by the recent controversy involving the telecasting of certain of the Notre Dame home or away games by station WNDU-TV, South Bend, Ind. See letter to Mr. Asa S. Bushnell, dated Oct. 28, 1965, public notice, dated Oct. 29, 1965, nteco 75429. Under the NCAA television regulations, the station was allowed to telecast such games, but permission to do so was temporarily withdrawn because CATV systems, without WNDU-TV's consent, would then pick up the station's signal and carry it to areas not coming within the regulations. The NCAA television committee, while it is continuing to study the matter, recently adopted a new regulation stating:

Any televising privilege granted under article XIII (a or b), or XV shall apply exclusively to the station or stations specified, and shall be limited to such station or stations. Any extension of such an authorized telecast or its stipulated area of coverage by means of commercial microwave, cable, or community antenna television operation shall be construed as a violation of the rights accorded, and shall preclude favorable consideration of further authorizations of this nature. (Report of the 1965 NCAA television committee, Jan. 10-12, 1966, p. 31)."

Under this unusual situation, the local broadcast station could lose the opportunity to present a program of great interest to its area (as the NCAA plan recognizes in its regulations), because CATV systems over which it has no control carry the program beyond the specified local area (conceivably for hundreds of miles).

Indeed, the anomalous conditions could have an adverse effect on development of new program sources. Multiple owners such as Westinghouse or Metromedia have undertaken some development of new programs; this endeavor promotes the public interest by increasing the programs available and diversifying their sources. But, as Westinghouse points out, the undertaking is a difficult one, which might not be sustained if the programs are brought into the major markets by CATV systems of significant size or impact, thus diminishing or ending the opportunity for the sale of the programs in these markets. The same consideration might be pertinent in the case of the development of a fourth network.

such as NBC have urged that a section 325(a) approach would obviate the need for much, if not all, of the Commission regulations in this area and would serve the public interest. We are not in a position to state whether the section 325(a) approach would be effective and fully consistent with the public interest. We think that this is a matter warranting congressional (and Commission) consideration, including such aspects as how a "transmission consent" requirement would function as a practical matter, whether systems in small communities should be dealt with specially, and whether grandfathering is appropriate and the nature of any such grandfathering.

(iv) Finally, Congress will be asked to consider the appropriate relationship of Federal to State-local jurisdiction in the CATV field, with particular reference to initial franchising, rate regulation, and extension of service.

CONCLUSION

154. Authority for adoption of these rules is contained in sections 1, 4(i), 303, 307(b), 308, and 309 of the Communications Act. We wish to stress particularly the provisions of section 1 that the general purpose of the act is to "maintain the control of the United States over all the channels of interstate and foreign radio transmission * * * under licenses granted by Federal authority"; of section 303(h), "establish areas or zones to be served by any station"; of section 307(b) to make "a fair, efficient, and equitable distribution of radio service among the several States and communities"; section 303(g), to stimulate new uses of radio and generally encourage the larger and more effective use of radio in the public interest, and section 303(s), the "all-channel receiver" section. The rules we adopt here, under the rule-making power bestowed upon the Commission in sections 4(i) and 303(r), are designed to "study new uses" and insure future CATV activity and growth consistent with the "larger and more effective use of radio in the public interest." Indeed, the type of situation here involved is the very reason for the creation of this agency as the history of early chaos in the radio field shows. As the Supreme Court has stated, the Communications Act "expresses a desire on the part of Congress to maintain, through appropriate administrative control, its grip on the dynamic aspects of radio transmission" (*FCC v. Potomac Electric Power Co.*, 309 U.S. 134, 138; see also *NBC v. U.S.*, 319 U.S. 190).

155. In this connection, we stress that we are not committed to the status quo—to protecting existing investment against new technological advances. The whole history of this art has been one of growth, from radio to television to perhaps tomorrow satellite broadcasting or laser communication. It may be that CATV, if allowed full unfettered growth, would prove to be an excellent supplement bringing additional service and diverse programming to millions of people in built-up areas who can afford it, without detriment to the provision of additional local broadcasting service to the entire Nation. If so, the information obtained in the hearing process will provide that indication, and will be the basis for authorizing such growth. But we cannot make that judgment in the record now before us—and, instead of the above picture of wire television as an excellent supplement, there is the possibility that the Nation might find itself with a system half wire, half free, which is destructive of the larger goals of additional networks, additional outlets for local expression, and which provides increased service to some in the city

the expense of those in the rural area or those who cannot afford to pay. It is, we think, time to get the facts, and in light of the service presently available, there is time to get the facts.

156. Accordingly, *It is ordered*. This 4th day of March 1966, that the rules contained in the attached appendix D are adopted, effective April 18, 1966; *Provided, however*, That the provisions of section 74.1103 are not effective as to existing operations of nonmicrowave CATV systems until 60 days thereafter, and provided further that the provisions of sections 74.1105, 74.1107, and 74.1109 are effective immediately upon publication in the Federal Register.

It is further ordered. That pursuant to section 403 of the Communications Act, all CATV systems in operation on April 18, 1966, shall within 30 days thereafter file with the Commission the information described in paragraph 99 of this report.

It is further ordered. That the proceedings in docket No. 15971 be not terminated and that, in light of the comments on part II of docket No. 15971 and/or such further proceedings as the Commission may order, amendments may be made to the rules set forth in the attached appendix C or additional rules may be adopted.

It is further ordered. That the proceedings in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 be terminated.

APPENDIX A

Comments and/or reply comments on part I and paragraph 50 of this proceeding were filed by :

AFL-CIO affiliated labor organizations
 Allied Artists Television Corp.
 American Broadcasting Co.
 American Cable Television, Inc.
 American Farm Bureau Federation
 American Telephone & Telegraph Co.
 Aroostock Broadcasting Corp.
 Association for Competitive Television
 Association of Maximum Service Telecasters, Inc.
 Black Canon Broadcasting Co.
 Bonneville International Corp.
 Clearview of Georgia, Inc.
 Columbia Broadcasting System
 D. H. Overmyer
 Entron, Inc.
 Eastern Educational Network
 Fuqua Industries, Inc.
 G. T. & E. Service Corp.
 Houston Post Co.
 International Telemeter Corp.
 Jack O. Gross, d/b/a Gross Broadcasting Co.
 Jerrold Electronics Corp.
 Journal Co.
 Joint comments of stations KHOU-TV, KOTV, KXTX, WANE-TV, WAVE-TV, WFIE-TV, WFRV, WISH-TV, WJXT, WMT-TV, WNOK-TV, WTOP-TV
 Meredith Broadcasting Co.
 Mesa Verde Broadcasting Co., Inc.
 Micro-Relay, Inc.
 Midwest Television, Inc.
 Mobile Video Tapes, Inc.
 National Association of Broadcasters

National Association of Educational Broadcasters
 National Broadcasting Co.
 National Community Television Association, Inc.
 National Educational Television
 National Farmers Union
 National Grange
 Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin, Krim & Ballon
 Rogers TV Cable, Inc.
 Rust Craft Broadcasting Co.
 San Diego Telecasters, Inc.
 Smith & Pepper (on behalf of over 150 CATV systems)
 Snyder & Associates
 Springfield Television Broadcasting Corp.
 Storer Broadcasting Co.
 Superior Broadcasting Corp.
 Taft Broadcasting Co.
 Telerama, Inc.
 Triangle Publications, Inc.
 Tri-State TV Translator Association
 Trans Video Corp.
 TV Cable Service of Abilene, Inc.
 U.S. Independent Telephone Association
 West Central Broadcasting Co.
 Westinghouse Broadcasting Co., Inc.
 Western Slope Broadcasting Co., Inc.
 WGAL Television, Inc.
 WJAC, Inc.
 WKBH Television, Inc.
 WTVY, Inc.
 William L. Fox

APPENDIX B

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS ON PARAGRAPH 50

National Community Television Association (NCTA) urges that a rule along the lines of the policy adopted in paragraph 49 and proposed in paragraph 50 "completely arbitrary," "unnecessary," and "would be a virtual prohibition provide CATV service in such communities (NCTA comments, pp. 13-14). By way of support NCTA quotes at length (NCTA, exhibit B, pp. 14-22) from the discussion in the Seiden report concerning "CATV in Three-Station Markets" (pp. 84-86) and from the Fisher report concerning the effect of noncarrier on audience and revenues where there are three or more off-the-air program alternatives (pp. 91-92). NCTA states that the Seiden and Fisher conclusion "show conclusively that there is absolutely no basis for allegations of CATV as an adverse factor in the potential development of VHF television in large cities" (NCTA, exhibit B, pp. 22, 32). NCTA asserts further that there is no criterion for determining whether a CATV system might at some time have the effect of delaying construction of a VHF station in a three-station market (NCTA comments, p. 14, exhibit B, p. 31). Finally, it states that the existence of a CATV system in a community has not in the past prevented construction of a successful VHF or UHF television station in the community (*ibid.*).

Other comments on behalf of CATV interests challenge the proposed paragraph 50 rule principally on the ground of alleged lack of jurisdiction over CATV systems. It is asserted in addition that CATV will help UHF by providing good quality reception to an immediate audience prior to all-channel set saturation. Because of this, some UHF permittees in major cities have indicated no objection to CATV entry. It is further asserted that the success of independents will ultimately depend on their ability to provide a program service which will attract viewers and advertisers. International Telemeter Corp. states that if and when CATV systems are established on a broad base in large metropolitan areas, they may well be utilized for pay-TV operations as an adjunct to other forms of wire television (Telemeter reply comments, p. 11). But, Telemeter adds (*ibid.*) "this is not to say that the public interest will not be served by the result * * * the multiplicity of services via wire television systems can only serve, not harm the public interest."

The comments of the American Broadcasting Co. (ABC) support the proposal. ABC states that a CATV operator in a market such as Philadelphia could carry the several New York independents to the very serious detriment of the local Philadelphia UHF stations, and that the carriage and nonduplication rules recently adopted by the Commission are not truly responsive to the "unexpected rationalization of the audience interested in independent programming." ABC therefore believes that the Commission should "establish the areas or zones" normally to be served by television stations and delineate the circumstances under which a station's signals may properly be brought to areas not within its normal service area. It asserts that interim rules, pending the adoption of final rules in part II, are needed because once CATV systems are established in markets that have a potential for independent UHF station development in the reasonably near future, the Commission will find itself in the impossible position of trying to undo what has already been done—of possibly adopting a regulation which would deny to substantial numbers the service which they assumed they could receive and for which they have already paid. ABC therefore urges the adoption of a rule prohibiting any person from transporting the signal of a TV station beyond its grade B contour into a community within the range of four or more commercial grade A assignments and receiving grade A or better service from three or more commercial TV stations (or two such stations with a third station already authorized). ABC states that such a rule would apply basically to all but three of the Nation's top 100 markets and therefore to those areas which now or shortly will have three or more local network services and the reasonably immediate likelihood of a fourth commercial service; that with this amount of service, these areas do not have any pressing need for additional service via wire, and they are also the areas which hold the most possibilities for UHF development; that the interim procedure would insure that a significant pay-TV service would not be established while the Commission is reaching its final decision in this proceeding and in the pay-TV rulemaking proceeding that has recently been requested; and that at the same time, the interim procedure will not preclude the development of CATV in those relatively underserved areas where it serves as a needed adjunct to free television service. Above all, ABC stresses that the proposed rule will prevent the establishment of CATV systems in areas and under conditions which the Commission may ultimately conclude could inhibit or prevent the normal development of UHF television.

Westinghouse in its comments takes a position similar to that of ABC. It urges a restriction upon the importation of signals into communities situated within the grade A coverage of four or more commercial TV assignments and communities within the grade A coverage of three or more commercial stations actually in operation (with exceptions (i) for two station markets with an outstanding construction permit for a third station where such permit is not activated within 6 months, and (ii) to areas within the grade A coverage of three stations not receiving the full service of the three networks because of the existing network affiliation relations). It asserts that many applicants for CATV franchises in big cities today are promising to deliver such stations as WOR-TV and WNEW-TV, New York, and WGN-TV, Chicago; that these are well-established, independent stations in major markets, and, compared with a UHF station just getting started in another city, have a much greater economic base to make major expenditures for programming; and that the local UHF station, competing with these major stations for what is at best a limited audience (i.e. the audience for nonnetwork programming), will be unable to get a large enough share of this audience necessary for it to produce the income needed for the station to buy programming with which it can *in fact* compete for viewers with the other stations on the system. It states that CATV only brings its service to some fewers—those fortunate enough to live in areas with a large enough local population to furnish an economic base for the laying of CATV cable, and then only those living in such areas who can afford to pay CATV fees. Westinghouse asserts that CATV in big cities also has the obvious potential of transforming itself into pay-TV, and points to recent news reports that tell of a company which was unsuccessful in its efforts to operate a pay-TV system in one city in Canada and is now planning to take over a successful major CATV system in another Canadian city and convert it to pay-TV in whole or in part. Finally, Westinghouse stresses the need for an interim rule, stating that once CATV franchises are granted in the larger markets and construction of the systems

is commenced pursuant to those grants, the Commission, from a practical and political viewpoint, will have lost effective control of the situation in those areas.

Storer Broadcasting Co. also supported the proposal because, it asserts, there is a definite probability of serious impact on television development in such cases, and the Commission cannot, through inaction, permit events to occur which jeopardize the goals set by the Congress and the Commission looking toward a competitive nationwide system of intermixed local television facilities. It urges that there is an established immediate need to "hold the line," during the interim period, on importation of distant signals to the major markets where CATV's "present stampede" into these markets might destroy the independent stations' audience potential "through importation of competitive programming on unequal terms" (Storer comments, p. 12). Storer also states that if the policy is to be effective, it should be applied to affiliated as well as independent UHF stations, and that it should be extended to CATV systems in nearby communities upon which the UHF depend for audience circulation. It asserts that a UHF station, although nominally a network affiliate, may still rely largely on independent programming, and that therefore its development requires the same protection as that proposed for independent UHF operators; and that CATV systems in nearby communities "can impose drastic damage on that station's audience circulation, particularly on a cumulative basis." (Id. at p. 14.)

The Association of Maximum Service Telecasters (AMST), Midwest Television, Inc. (Midwest), and the joint comments of KIHOU-TV, KUTV, KNTX, WANE-TV, WAVF-TV, WFLE-TV, WFRV, WJXT, WMT-TV, WNOK-TV, WTOP-TV (joint comments) all urge the adoption of interim procedures going beyond those proposed in paragraph 50. The factual basis of AMST's and Midwest's comments have been described in part (see pars. 31-41). In addition, AMST cites the experiences of the UHF station in Lock Haven, Pa., and of UHF station WRLP, Greenfield, Mass., in the face of CATV competition. AMST asserts that the importation of outside large city independent television stations by CATV will be an obstacle to the development of a fourth network since it will jeopardize the development of the UHF stations in these cities. AMST also states that the entry of CATV into larger cities poses a substantial threat to the development of network UHF service, citing in support statement made to the Commission or to the Congress of Rust Craft Broadcasting Co. permittee of WJKS-TV, Jacksonville, Fla., and WCCB-TV, a new UHF station in Charlotte, N.C. Midwest describes the explosive growth of CATV in the Peoria-La Salle area, the Springfield area, the Champaign-Danville area, the WCIA service area generally, and the San Diego area (see pars. 34, 39-41). The joint comments assert that proposals to bring multiple distant signals into areas such as Fort Wayne, Ind., Columbia, S.C., Jacksonville, Fla., and Indianapolis, Ind., jeopardize or foreclose the development of new UHF stations in these areas. The joint comments point out that in the area served by the existing Sacramento-Stockton stations, CATV systems have been franchised or have commenced operations in at least 31 communities, and applications for franchises have been filed or proposed in at least 18 more—including Sacramento and Stockton themselves; that the total number of households in these cities and communities is more than 250,000, representing a major portion of the audience now served by the three existing Sacramento-Stockton commercial stations and a still more substantial portion of the audience which would be served by KPXL, the newly authorized UHF station on channel 29 in Sacramento; that as the permittee for the new UHF station in Sacramento has informed the Sacramento City Council, the importation of outside signals from San Francisco-Oakland and Los Angeles stations, as proposed, would make it impossible for the new UHF station to survive.

AMST, Midwest, and the joint comments propose the interim rule that no CATV system shall be permitted to extend the signal of any television broadcast station beyond its grade B contour except upon a clear and full showing (a) that there are special circumstances, for example, that the community is remote and isolated and does not have, and cannot be expected to receive in the future, direct off-the-air local or area television service; and (b) that the operation of the CATV system, taken together with the operations of all other CATV systems operating or franchised or which are being proposed in the area in question, would not pose a substantial threat to the maintenance or the expansion of any existing UHF station or the development of new UHF service.

in the area. AMST urges that the foregoing rule should be made effective immediately upon its publication and should be made applicable to all CATV systems proposed on or after April 23, 1965, the date of the release of the Commission's first report and order and its notice of inquiry and notice of proposed remarking. It states that an alternative but much less satisfactory approach in review of the CATV activity since April 23 would be to apply the interim rule, (a) to all CATV systems which become operative on or after the publication of the rule, regardless of the date of franchise, and (b) to any CATV system operating on the date of publication of the rule which thereafter substantially expands its lines or the number of its subscribers or which increases the number of stations carried.

In reply comments ABC and Westinghouse assert that their interim proposal would better serve the public interest because it has been designed to prohibit the development of CATV in areas where it could adversely affect the overall public interest but not to prohibit its development where it could have little adverse effect upon the public interest and where there may well be a substantial public need for CATV services. In its reply, AMST asserts that its interim procedure would not have the effect of being a complete ban on CATV; that it would leave untouched the further expansion and development of CATV in its historic locations—(a) the providing of service to communities that are remote and isolated and do not have, and cannot be expected to receive in the future, direct off-the-air local or area television service, and (b) the providing of a full service, improving the off-the-air service of local and area television stations in pockets within their normal coverage contours where for terrain or similar reasons a desirable quality of service is not received. It further argues that if there are indeed situations in which a CATV entrepreneur can show that he will aid rather than threaten the maintenance or expansion of existing UHF stations and the development of new UHF service, appropriate interim rules and policies will leave it open to the CATV entrepreneur to make such a showing. AMST urges that the ABC and Westinghouse interim procedure are inadequate because they seek at the most to protect only those communities or areas which could ultimately have four television stations; that even as to those communities or areas, three television stations must already be active or two must be active at the third imminent; and that the proposed rule would apply only in the grade A contours of those existing or imminent stations. AMST states that there is no reason—at least in the interim—to allow CATV to retard UHF development in any market. And that it is entirely possible for CATV systems in dozens of small communities to blanket most of the audience potential in that station's service area beyond its grade A contour; and that the area can thus be very effectively denied to a small UHF station—possibly the difference between survival and failure, and at least the difference between effective programming and ineffective programming.

APPENDIX C

COMMISSION'S MEMORANDUM ON ITS JURISDICTION AND AUTHORITY

Section 1 of the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. 151) states that the purpose of the act is the regulation of interstate and foreign commerce in communication by wire and radio, and that to efficiently achieve this purpose, authority over such commerce is centralized in the Commission. Section 2 (47 U.S.C. 152) states that the "provisions of this Act" shall apply to "all interstate communication by wire or radio * * * and to all persons engaged within the United States in such communication * * *." These terms are defined in section 3 of the act. Section 3(a) defines wire communication as the "transmission of * * * pictures, and sounds of all kinds by aid of wire, cable, or other like connection between two points of origin and reception of such transmission, including all instrumentalities, facilities, apparatus, and services (among other things, the receipt, forwarding and delivery of communications) incidental to such transmission." Section 3(b) defines communication by radio as the "transmission by radio of * * * pictures, and sounds of all kinds, including all instrumentalities, facilities, apparatus, and services (among other things, the receipt, forwarding, and delivery of communications) incidental to such transmission."

From the plain language of these definitions, there would seem to be no question but that CATV systems are engaged in interstate communications by wire or

radio. They transmit "pictures, and sounds * * * by aid of wire" and "instrumentalities * * * [used for] * * * the receipt, forwarding, and delivery of communications * * * incidental to such transmission," and hence fall within the definition of wire communication under section 3(a).¹ Moreover, CATV systems constitute interstate communication by wire, since they form a connecting link in the chain of communication between the point of origin (transmitting station) and reception by the viewing public (the CATV subscriber)—a chain which "is now well established * * * as interstate communication." *Capital City Telephone Co.*, 3 FCC 189, 193 (citing *Federal Radio Commission v. Nelson Bros. Bond & Mortgage Co.*, 289 U.S. 266).² The law is clear that the mere location of communication facilities wholly within one State does not establish that the communication service rendered over such facilities is an intrastate service, and that a communications service can be interstate, even though foreign in nature and subject to the Commission's jurisdiction even though the facilities are located within the confines of one State. *California Intercontinental Telephone Company v. F.C.C.*, 328 F. 2d 556 (C.A.D.C.); *Hard v. Northern Ohio Telephone Co.*, 300 F. 2d 816 (C.A. 6), cert. den. 371 U.S. 820; *Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co., Inc.*, FCC 64-1180, 4 R.R. 2d 145 (1961). CATV systems are extensions of the interstate service of the television broadcast stations whose signals they carry, *Clarksburg Publishing Co. v. F.C.C.*, 225 F. 2d 511, 517 (C.A.D.C.), and hence constitute "interstate communication by wire" to which the provisions of the act are applicable (secs. 2(a), 3(a)). See *American Trucking Association v. United States*, 344 U.S. 298, 311.³

With respect to the Commission's authority to adopt the rules proposed in the notice of inquiry and proposed rulemaking, i.e., the "provisions of [the] act that are to be applied to CATV systems, there are the following sections: sections 1, 4(i), 303(f), (h), (p), and (r), 307(b), 315, 317, and 508. But crucial sections would appear to be 1, 307(b), 4(i), and 303(f), (h), and (r). As the notice and the report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 make clear, the existence and growth of CATV systems threaten to impede realization of the Commission's television assignment plan and policies under sections 1, 307(b) (i.e., the sixth report and order).⁴ See *Curier Mountain Transmissions Corp. v. F.C.C.*, 321 F. 2d 359 (C.A.D.C.), cert. den. 375 U.S. 951 (1963). The Commission has authority under sections 4(i), 303(f), 303(h), and 303(r) to

perform any and all acts, make such rules and regulations, and issue such orders, not inconsistent with this act, as may be necessary in the execution of its functions (4(i));

make such regulations not inconsistent with law as it may deem necessary to prevent interference between stations and to carry out the provisions of this act * * * (303(f));

establish areas or zones to be served by any station (303(b));

make such rules and regulations and prescribe such restrictions and conditions, not inconsistent with law, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this act * * * (303(r)).⁵

The foregoing provisions (4(i), 303(f), 303(h), and 303(r)) give the Commission broad rulemaking authority to carry out the provisions of this act (6

¹ It can be argued that CATV systems, in receiving, forwarding, and delivering the station's signal to the viewing public, are the instrumentalities incidental to the transmission of the signal and hence fall within the definition of "communication by radio" in sec. 3. However, it is unnecessary to consider this argument in view of the discussion at and as to sec. 3(a) and the scope of the Commission's proposals. Since CATV operations clearly fall within sec. 3(a) and/or sec. 3(b), a determination of their precise status is essential to the question of the Commission's jurisdiction to proceed as proposed in the notice of inquiry and proposed rulemaking.

² Congressional approval of the *Capital City* doctrine was expressed in connection with the 1960 amendment to sec. 202(b). See 105 Congressional Record at 6256.

³ It is, we believe, significant that in sustaining the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission in *American Trucking* the Supreme Court relied solely upon provisions of the Motor Carrier Act that are, in the circumstances, analogous to secs. 2 and 3 of Communications Act. Compare 49 U.S.C. 302(a) and 303(a) (19) with 47 U.S.C. 152 (a) and (b).

⁴ In addition, as noted in the notice, there exists the potential to frustrate the purpose of the act embodied in secs. 303(p), 310, 315, 317, and 508 (and certain Commission regulations).

⁵ Secs. 303(f), (h), and (r) are preceded by the following clause:

"Except as otherwise provided in this act, the Commission from time to time, as public convenience, interest, or necessity requires shall * * *."

secs. 1 and 307(b)) with respect to communications or persons coming within the Commission's jurisdiction (including CATV—sec. 2(a)). Section 303(h), particular, was affirmatively designed to assist the Commission in effectuating a fair and equitable distribution of broadcast service called for by section 307(b).⁶ The Commission's authority to issue rules establishing the area or zone to be served by any station for this purpose includes the power to prevent infringement of the rules by "any person" (secs. 312(b) and 502 of the Communications Act). Hence, it clearly encompasses, we believe, the authority to prescribe by rule the conditions under which the station's signal may be extended beyond the area or zone to be served by the originating station, by means of CATV—an "interstate communication by wire" to which the act's provisions are applicable (secs. 2(a) and 3(a)).

Moreover, apart from section 303(h), the general rulemaking power of the Commission (secs. 4(i) and 303(r)) includes authority to take necessary action, not inconsistent with the act or law, to prevent frustration of section 307(b) by CATV. In *National Broadcasting Co. v. U.S.*, 319 U.S. 190, 215-220, the Supreme Court citing, *inter alia*, sections 1, 303(f), and 303(r), stated that:

The avowed aim of the Communications Act of 1934 was to secure the maximum benefits of radio to all people of the United States. To that end Congress endowed the Communications Commission with comprehensive powers to promote and realize the vast potentialities of radio * * *. In the context of the developing problems to which it was directed, the act gave the Commission not niggardly but expansive powers.

Under such "expansive" and "comprehensive" powers,⁷ the Commission has authority to take reasonable and appropriate action, including promulgation of rules, "as may be necessary" to carry out the provisions of section 307(b)—to insure that the regulatory scheme embodied in that section (the equitable distribution of service) and section 303 is not frustrated by the operation of CATV, an "interstate communication by wire" to which the act's provisions are applicable. This authority does not depend on a specific reference to CATV or CATV practices in the act. *United States v. Storer Broadcasting Co.*, 351 U.S. 192, 203. See also, *National Broadcasting Co. v. United States*, 319 U.S. 190, 218-219, where the Supreme Court stated:

True enough, the act does not explicitly say that the Commission shall have power to deal with network practices found inimical to the public interest. But Congress was acting in a field of regulation which was both new and dynamic * * *. While Congress did not give the Commission unfettered discretion to regulate all phases of the radio industry, it did not frustrate the purpose for which the Communications Act of 1934 was brought into being by attempting an itemized catalog of the specific manifestations of the general problems for the solution of which it was establishing a regulatory agency. That would have stereotyped the powers of the Commission to specific details in regulating a field of enterprise the dominant characteristic of which was the rapid pace of its unfolding. And so Congress did what experience had taught it in similar attempts at regulation, even in fields far less fluid and dynamic than radio. The essence of that experience was to define broad areas for regulation and to establish standards for judgment adequately related in their application to the problems to be solved.⁸

⁶ Sec. 303(h) was copied from the Radio Act of 1927 and originated in preceding bills to amend the Radio Act of 1912. For the legislative intent, see hearings on H.R. 5589 before the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, 69th Cong., 1st sess., pp. 40-41.

⁷ See also, *Stahlman v. F.C.C.*, 126 F. 2d 124, 128 (C.A.D.C.). For the intended comprehensive scope of Commission authority see, e.g., the following legislative history of the Radio Act of 1927, which was reenacted in all substantial respects in the Communications Act of 1934 (78 Congressional Record 8822-8823, 10313-10314, 10990): 66 Congressional Record 5479; S. Rep. 772, 69th Cong., 1st sess., pp. 2, 3.

⁸ The Court, in referring to provisions of the act such as secs. 303 (g) and (r), stated 319 U.S. at 217-218):

These provisions, individually and in the aggregate, preclude the notion that the Commission is empowered to deal only with technical and engineering impediments to the clearer and more effective use of radio in the public interest. We cannot find in the act such restriction of the Commission's authority. Suppose, for example, that a community can, because of physical limitations, be assigned only two stations. That community might be deprived of effective service in any one of several ways. More powerful stations in nearby cities might blanket out the signals of the local stations so that they could not be heard at all. One station might dominate the other with the power of its

To the same effect in other fields, see *Houston, East and West Texas Railr Co. v. U.S.*, 234 U.S. 342; *U.S. v. Wrightwood Dairy Co.*, 315 U.S. 11; *U.S. v. Pennsylvania R. Co.*, 323 U.S. 612; *American Trucking Assoc. v. U.*, 344 U.S. 298; *Public Service Commission of State of New York v. Federal Power Commission*, 327 F. 2d 893, 897 (C.A.D.C.).⁹

The *American Trucking* case is particularly pertinent. The Supreme Court there sustained ICC rules "aimed at conditions [trip-leasing] which may directly frustrate the success of the regulation undertaken by Congress." Affirming sections analogous to section 307(b) in our situation, the Court stated (344 U.S. at 311):

Included in the act as a duty of the Commission is that "to administer, execute, and enforce all provisions of this part, to make all necessary orders in connection therewith, and to prescribe rules, regulation, and procedure for such administration." And this necessary rulemaking power, extending with the scope of agency regulation itself, must extend to the "transportation of passengers or property by motor carriers engaged in interstate or foreign commerce and to the procurement of and the provision of facilities for such transportation" regulation of which is vested in the Commission by 202(a). See also 203(a) (19).

We point out that section 201(a) (6) of the Motor Carrier Act is substantially similar to sections 303(r) and 4(i) of the Communications Act; while in the circumstances, sections 202(a) and 203(a) (19) of that act are closely analogous to sections 2(b) and 3(a) of the act. Further, the Court reached its conclusion "despite the absence of specific reference to leasing practices in the act stating (at pp. 309-310):

Our function, however, does not stop with a section-by-section search for the phrase "regulation of leasing practices" among the literal words of the statutory provisions. As a matter of principle, we might agree with appellants' contentions if we thought it a reasonable canon of interpretation that the draftsmen of acts delegating agency powers, as a practical and realistic matter, can or do include specific consideration of every evil sought to be corrected. But no great acquaintance with practical affairs is required to know that such prescience either in fact or in the minds of Congress, does not exist. *National Broadcasting Co. v. United States*, 319 U.S. 190, 212-220; * * *. Its very absence, moreover, is precisely one of the reasons why regulatory agencies such as the Commission are created * * *.

See also, *Public Service Comm. of N.Y. v. FPC*, 327 F. 2d 893, 896-97 (C.A.D.C.).

Of course, the rules must be "reasonably necessary and fairly appropriate" to the protection of the regulatory scheme. *Colorado Interstate Gas Co. v. Federal Power Commission*, 142 F. 2d 943, 952 (C.A. 10). See also, *American Trucking Assn. v. U.S.*, 344 U.S., at 314-315; *National Broadcasting Co. v. U.S.*, 319 U.S. at 219 ("Generalities unrelated to the living problems of radio communication cannot justify exercises of power by the Commission").¹⁰ The report and order in dockets Nos. 14895 and 15233 demonstrates the appropriateness and necessity

of the signal. But the community could be deprived of good radio service in ways less cruel. One man, financially and technically qualified, might apply for and obtain the licenses for both stations and present a single service over the two stations, thus wasting a frequency otherwise available to the area. The language of the act does not withdraw such a situation from the licensing and regulatory powers of the Commission, and there is no evidence that Congress did not mean its broad language to carry the authority it expresses."

⁹ The *Public Service Commission* case sustained the power of the Federal Power Commission to issue temporary certificates to protect producers, although sec. 7(e) of the Federal Power Act expressly authorized such action only to protect customers, on the basis of the broad provisions of sec. 16 of that act which are virtually the same as sec. 303(r) of the Communications Act. The Court stated (327 F. 2d at 897): "All authority of the Commission need not be found in explicit language. Sec. 16 demonstrates a realization by Congress that the Commission would be confronted with unforeseen problems of administration in regulating this huge industry and should have a basis for coping with such confrontation."

¹⁰ The Commission clearly has no jurisdiction over bowling alleys or theaters, for example, as an administrative agency has no greater power than has been conferred by Congress. *Stark v. Wickard*, 321 U.S. 288; *NLRB v. Atlantic Metallic Casket Co.*, 205 F. 2d 9 (C.A. 5). Cf. *Peters v. Hobby*, 349 U.S. 331. However, unlike bowling alleys and theaters, CATV systems intercept and extend the signals of television stations, and thus have a uniquely close relationship to the regulatory scheme. Moreover, CATV systems are engaged in interstate communication by wire to which the act's provisions are expressly applicable.

rules requiring all CATVs to carry local stations without duplication for a reasonable period. Moreover, the *Carter Mountain* decision establishes the reasonableness of the requirements. In affirming the Commission, the Court stated that "this does not appear to us an unreasonable condition," but rather "a legitimate measure of protection for the local station and the public interest" (21 F. 2d 359, at 363-364). The notice of inquiry and proposed rulemaking similarly demonstrates the validity of the Commission's concern as to the effect of CATV on independent stations and programing sources, as well as on the development of UHF in the larger markets.

In conclusion, it would appear that under the broad regulatory powers vested in it by the Communications Act, the Commission presently has jurisdiction over CATV systems, whether microwave is used or not; that there are pertinent provisions of the act applicable to the exercise of authority over such systems (in particular, secs. 1, 4(i), 303(f), 303(h), 303(r), 307(b), and 403); and that the proposed rules and inquiry represent a reasonable exercise of that authority in the circumstances.

APPENDIX D

Part 21 is amended as follows:

1. In section 21.710, paragraphs (a) and (b) are amended and a new paragraph (i) is added as follows:

§ 21.710 DEFINITIONS

As used in §§ 21.712 and 21.714:

(a) *Community antenna television systems.* The term "community antenna television system" ("CATV system") means any facility which, in whole or in part, receives directly or indirectly over the air and amplifies or otherwise modifies the signals transmitting programs broadcast by one or more television stations and distributes such signals by wire or cable to subscribing members of the public who pay for such service, but such term shall not include, (1) any such facility which serves fewer than 50 subscribers, or (2) any such facility which serves only the residents of one or more apartment dwellings under common ownership, control, or management, and commercial establishments located on the premises of such an apartment house.

(b) *Television station; television broadcast station; television translator station.* The terms "television station" and "television broadcast station" mean any television broadcasting station operating on a channel regularly assigned to its community by § 73.606 of this chapter. The term "television translator station" means a television translator station as defined in § 74.701 of this chapter. A television translator station which is licensed to and rebroadcasts the programing of a television broadcast station within that station's grade B contour, shall be deemed an extension of the originating station.

* * * * *

(i) *Distant signal.* The term "distant signal" means the signal of a television broadcast station which is extended or received beyond the grade B contour of that station.

In section 21.712, paragraphs (b), (c), (d)(3), (e), (g), (h), (i), (j) are amended; paragraphs (i)(4) and (k) are added; and note 2 to section 21.712 is deleted:

§ 21.712 AUTHORIZATIONS FOR FIXED STATIONS TO RELAY TELEVISION SIGNALS TO CATV SYSTEMS * * *

* * * * *

(b) *Notification of request for service.* Any such CATV system or other subscriber proposing to utilize such service to relay television signals to any CATV system, either directly or indirectly, shall notify the licensee or permittee of any television broadcast station, within whose predicted grade B contour the CATV system operates or will operate in whole or in part, and the licensee or permittee of any 100 w or higher power translator station operating in the community of the system, of the request for service. Where it is proposed to extend the signal of any noncommercial educational television station beyond its grade B contour into a community with an

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unoccupied reserved educational television channel assignment under § 73.606 of this chapter, the notice shall also be served upon the superintendents of schools in the community and county and the local area, and State educational television agencies, if any. Such notice shall include the fact of the request for service, identification of each CATV system to utilize the service requested (either directly or indirectly), identification of the community served or to be served by each CATV system, and the television station(s) whose programs will be distributed by each such CATV system.

(c) *Stations required to be carried.* Within the limits of its channel capacity, any such CATV system shall carry the signals of operating subsequently authorized television broadcast and 100 w or higher power translator stations in the following order of priority, upon request of the licensee or permittee of the relevant station:

(1) First, all commercial and noncommercial educational stations within whose principal community contours the station operates, in whole or in part;

(2) Second, all commercial and noncommercial educational stations within whose grade A contours the system operates, in whole or in part;

(3) Third, all commercial and noncommercial educational stations within whose grade B contours the system operates, in whole or in part; and

(4) Fourth, all commercial and noncommercial educational translator stations operating in the community of the system with 100 w or higher power.

(d) *Exceptions.* * * *

(3) The system need not carry the signal of any television translator station if (i) the system is carrying the signal of the originating station, (ii) the system is within the grade B or higher priority contour of a station carried on the system whose programming is substantially duplicated by a translator.

(e) *Special requirements in the event of noncarriage.* Where the system does not carry the signals of one or more stations within whose grade A or higher priority contour it operates, or the signals of one or more 100 w or higher power translator stations located in its community, the system shall offer and maintain, for each subscriber, an adequate switching device to allow the subscriber to choose between cable and noncable reception, unless the subscriber affirmatively indicates in writing that he does not desire this device.

(g) *Stations entitled to program exclusivity.* Any such system which operates, in whole or in part, within the grade B or higher priority contour of any commercial or noncommercial educational television station or within the community of a fourth priority television translator station, which carries the signal of such station shall, upon request of the station licensee or permittee, maintain the station's exclusivity as a program out against lower priority or more distant duplicating signals, but not against signals of equal priority, in the manner and to the extent specified in paragraphs (h) and (i) of this section.

(h) *Program exclusivity; extent of protection.* Where a station is entitled to program exclusivity, the CATV system shall, upon request of the station licensee or permittee, refrain from duplicating any program broadcast by such station on the same day as its broadcast by the station, if the CATV operator has received notification from the requesting station of the date and time of its broadcast of the program and the date and time of its broadcast to be deleted, as soon as possible and in any event no later than 48 hours prior to the broadcast to be deleted. Upon request of the CATV system, such notice shall be given at least 8 days prior to the date of its broadcast to be deleted.

(i) *Exceptions.* Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (h) of this section,

(4) The system need not delete reception of any program which would be carried on the system in color but will be broadcast in black and white by the station requesting deletion.

(j) *Disputes between television broadcast or translator stations and CATV systems; requests for waiver of the rules or for different treatment.* In the event that a dispute should arise, at any time, between a television broadcast or translator station and a CATV system served under an authorization subject to this section, on the question of whether the CATV system is complying with the applicable requirements, the matter may be referred to the Commission for a ruling pursuant to the provisions of § 74.1109 of this chapter, either by the licensee carrier, or by the station, or CATV system, with notice to the licensee carrier. Where a dispute has been referred to the Commission for a ruling or where a petition for waiver of the rules or for different requirements has been filed under § 74.1109 of this chapter, with notice to the licensee carrier, microwave service to the relevant subscriber shall not be commenced or terminated until 30 days after the Commission's ruling has been received by the licensee carrier.

(k) *Interim requirement.* No CATV system shall be provided with microwave service, either directly or indirectly, if the operation of such CATV system would be inconsistent with § 74.1107 of this chapter.

NOTE 1.—As used in § 21.712(b), the term "predicted grade B contour" means the field intensity contour defined in § 73.683(a) of this chapter, the location of which is determined exclusively by means of the calculations prescribed in § 73.684 of this chapter.

II. Part 74 is amended as follows:

1. In section 74.1, paragraph(c) (4) is deleted, and two new paragraphs (d) and (e) are added to read as follows:

§ 74.1 SERVICES COVERED BY THIS PART

* * * * *

(d) Community antenna relay stations (subpart J).

(e) Community antenna television systems (subpart K).

2. In section 74.1001(e), subparagraphs (1) and (2) are amended as follows and a new subparagraph (9) is added as follows:

§ 74.1001 DEFINITIONS

* * * * *

(e) As used in §§ 74.1031 and 74.1033.

(1) *Community antenna television system.* The term "community antenna television system" ("CATV system") means any facility which, in whole or in part, receives directly or indirectly over the air and amplifies or otherwise modifies the signals transmitting programs broadcast by one or more television stations and distributes such signals by wire or cable to subscribing members of the public who pay for such service, but such term shall not include (1) any such facility which serves fewer than 50 subscribers, or (2) any such facility which serves only the residents of one or more apartment dwellings under common ownership, control, or management, and commercial establishments located on the premises of such an apartment house.

(2) *Television station; television broadcast station; television translator station.* The terms "television station" and "television broadcast station" mean any television broadcasting station operating on a channel regularly assigned to its community by § 73.606 of this chapter. The term "television translator station" means a television broadcast translator station as defined in § 74.701 of this chapter. A television translator station which is licensed to and rebroadcasts the programming of a television broadcast station within that station's grade B contour shall be deemed an extension of the originating station.

* * * * *

(9) *Distant signal.* The term "distant signal" means the signal of a television broadcast station which is extended or received beyond the grade B contour of that station.

Section 74.1031(c) is amended to read as follows:

§ 74.1031 ELIGIBILITY AND CONTENTS OF APPLICATION

* * * * *

(c) An application for any authorization subject to § 74.1033 shall contain a statement that the applicant(s) have notified the licensee or permittee of any television station, within whose predicted grade B contour the CATV system(s) operate or will operate, in whole or in part, and the licensee or permittee of any 100 w or higher power translator station operating in the community of each such system, of the filing of the application. Where it is proposed to extend the signal of any noncommercial educational television station beyond its grade B contour into a community with an unoccupied reserved educational television channel assignment under § 73.606 of this chapter, the notice shall also be served upon the superintendents of schools in the community and county and the local, area, and State educational television agencies, if any. Such statement of the applicant shall be supported by copies of the letters of notification directed to such licensees or permittees and educational interests. The notice shall include the fact of filing by the applicant(s), identification of each CATV system served or to be served under the authorization sought, identification of the community served or to be served by each such CATV system, and the television, standard and broadcast, and FM station(s) whose programs will be distributed to each such CATV system.

NOTE 1.—As used in § 74.1031(c), the term "predicted grade B contour" means the field intensity contour defined in § 73.683(a) of this chapter, the location of which is determined exclusively by means of the calculations prescribed in § 73.684 of this chapter.

4. In section 74.1033, paragraphs (a), (b) (3), (c), (e), and (f) are amended; paragraphs (g) (4) and (h) are added; and the note to section 74.1033 is deleted.

§ 74.1033 LICENSING REQUIREMENTS * * *

(a) *Stations required to be carried.* Within the limits of its channel capacity, any such CATV system shall carry the signals of operating or subsequently authorized and operating television broadcast and 100 w or higher power translator stations in the following order of priority, upon the request of the licensee or permittee of the relevant station:

(1) First, all commercial and noncommercial educational stations within whose principal community contours the system operates, in whole or in part;

(2) Second, all commercial and noncommercial educational stations within whose grade A contours the system operates, in whole or in part;

(3) Third, all commercial and noncommercial educational stations within whose grade B contour the system operates, in whole or in part;

(4) Fourth, all commercial and noncommercial educational translator stations operating in the community of the system with 100 w or higher power.

(b) *Exceptions.* * * *

(3) The system need not carry the signal of any television translator station if (i) the system is carrying the signal of the originating station, or (ii) the system is within the grade B or higher priority contour of a station carried on the system whose programming is substantially duplicated by the translator.

(c) *Special requirements in the event of noncarriage.* Where the system does not carry the signals of one or more stations within whose grade A or higher priority contour it operates, or the signals of one or more 100 w or higher power translator stations located in its community, the system shall offer and maintain, for each subscriber, an adequate switching device to allow the subscriber to choose between cable and noncable reception, unless the subscriber affirmatively indicates in writing that he does not desire this device.

(e) *Stations entitled to program exclusivity.* Any such system which operates, in whole or in part, within the grade B or higher priority contour of any commercial or noncommercial educational television station or within the community of a fourth priority television translator station, and which carries the signal of such station shall, upon request of the station licensee or permittee, maintain the station's exclusivity as a program outlet against lower priority or more distant duplicating signals, but not against signals of

equal priority, in the manner and to the extent specified in paragraphs (f) and (g) of this section.

(f) *Program exclusivity; extent of protection.* Where a station is entitled to program exclusivity, the CATV system shall, upon the request of the station licensee or permittee, refrain from duplicating any program broadcast by such station on the same day as its broadcast by the station, if the CATV operator has received notification from the requesting station of the date and time of its broadcast of the program and the date and time of any broadcast to be deleted, as soon as possible and in any event no later than 48 hours prior to the broadcast to be deleted. Upon request of the CATV system such notice shall be given at least 8 days prior to the date of any broadcast to be deleted.

(g) *Exceptions.* * * *

(4) The system need not delete reception of any program which would be carried on the system in color but will be broadcast in black and white by the station requesting deletion.

(h) *Interim requirement.* No CATV system shall be provided with microwave service, either directly or indirectly, if the operation of such CATV system would be inconsistent with § 74.1107 of this chapter.

A new subpart K is added to read as follows:

SUBPART K—COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION SYSTEMS

Contents

- SEC. 74.1101 Definitions.
- SEC. 74.1103 Requirements relating to distribution of television signals by community antenna television systems.
- SEC. 74.1105 Notification prior to the commencement of new service.
- SEC. 74.1107 Requirement for showing in evidentiary hearing and Commission approval in top 100 television markets; other procedures.
- SEC. 74.1109 Procedures applicable to requests for waiver of the rules, additional or different requirements and rulings on complaints or disputes.

SUBPART K—COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION SYSTEMS

§ 74.1101 DEFINITIONS

(a) *Community antenna television system.* The term "community antenna television system" ("CATV system") means any facility which, in whole or in part, receives directly or indirectly over the air and amplifies or otherwise modifies the signals transmitting programs broadcast by one or more television stations and distributes such signals by wire or cable to subscribing members of the public who pay for such service, but such term shall not include (1) any such facility which serves fewer than 50 subscribers, or (2) any such facility which serves only the residents of one or more apartment dwellings under common ownership, control, or management, and commercial establishments located on the premises of such an apartment house.

(b) *Television station; television broadcast station; television translator station.* The terms "television station" and "television broadcast station" mean any television broadcasting station operating on a channel regularly assigned to its community by § 73.606 of this chapter. The term "television translator station" means a television broadcast translator station as defined in § 74.701 of this chapter. A television translator station which is licensed to and rebroadcasts the programming of a television broadcast station within that station's grade B contour, shall be deemed an extension of the originating station.

(c) *Principal community contour.* The term "principal community contour" means the signal contour which a television station is required to place over its entire principal community by § 73.685(a) of this chapter.

(d) *Grade A and grade B contours.* The terms "grade A contour" and "grade B contour" mean the field intensity contours defined in § 73.683(a) of this chapter.

(e) *Network programing.* The term "network programing" means programing supplied by a national television network organization.

(f) *Substantially duplicated.* The term "substantially duplicated" means regularly duplicated by the network programing of one or more stations singly or collectively, in a normal week during the hours of 6 to 11 p. m. local time, for a total of 14 or more hours.

(g) *Priority.* The term "priority" means the priority among stations established in § 74.1103(a).

(h) *Independent station.* The term "independent station" means a television station which is not affiliated with any national television network organization.

(i) *Distant signal.* The term "distant signal" means the signal of a television broadcast station which is extended or received beyond the grade A contour of that station.

§ 74.1103 REQUIREMENT RELATING TO DISTRIBUTION OF TELEVISION SIGNALS BY COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION SYSTEMS

No community antenna television system shall supply to its subscribers signals broadcast by one or more television stations, except in accordance with the following conditions:

(a) *Stations required to be carried.* Within the limits of its channel capacity, any such CATV system shall carry the signals of operating stations subsequently authorized and operating television broadcast and 100 watt higher power translator stations in the following order of priority, upon request of the licensee or permittee of the relevant station:

(1) First, all commercial and noncommercial educational stations within whose principal community contours the system operates, in whole or in part;

(2) Second, all commercial and noncommercial educational stations within whose grade A contours the system operates, in whole or in part;

(3) Third, all commercial and noncommercial educational stations within whose grade B contours the system operates, in whole or in part;

(4) Fourth, all commercial and noncommercial educational television translator stations operating in the community of the system with 100 watt higher power.

(b) *Exceptions.* Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section,

(1) The system need not carry the signal of any station, if (i) that station's network programing is substantially duplicated by one or more stations of higher priority, and (ii) carrying it would, because of limited channel capacity, prevent the system from carrying the signal of an independent commercial station or a noncommercial educational station.

(2) In cases where (i) there are two or more signals of equal priority which substantially duplicate each other, and (ii) carrying all such signals would, because of limited channel capacity, prevent the system from carrying the signal of an independent commercial station or a noncommercial educational station, the system need not carry all such substantially duplicating signals, but may select among them to the extent necessary to preserve its ability to carry the signals of independent commercial or noncommercial educational stations.

(3) The system need not carry the signal of any television translator station if (i) the system is carrying the signal of the originating station, or (ii) the system is within the grade B or higher priority contour of a station carried on the system whose programing is substantially duplicated by the translator.

(c) *Special requirements in the event of noncarriage.* Where the system does not carry the signals of one or more stations within whose grade A or higher priority contour it operates, or the signals of one or more 100 watt higher power translator stations located in its community, the system shall offer and maintain, for each subscriber, an adequate switching device to allow the subscriber to choose between cable and noncable reception, unless the subscriber affirmatively indicates in writing that he does not desire such device.

(c) *Manner of carriage.* Where the signal of any station is required to be carried under this section,

(1) The signal shall be carried without material degradation in quality (within the limitations imposed by the technical state of the art);

(2) The signal shall, upon request of the station licensee or permittee, be carried on the system on the channel on which the station is transmitting (where practicable without material degradation); and

(3) The signal shall, upon the request of the station licensee or permittee, be carried on the system on no more than one channel.

(d) *Stations entitled to program exclusivity.* Any such system which includes, in whole or in part, within the grade B or higher priority contour of any commercial or noncommercial educational television station or within the community of a fourth priority television translator station, and which carries the signal of such station shall, upon request of the station licensee or permittee, maintain the station's exclusivity as a program outlet against any priority or more distant duplicating signals, but not against signals of equal priority, in the manner and to the extent specified in paragraphs (f) and (g) of this section.

(e) *Program exclusivity; extent of protection.* Where a station is entitled to program exclusivity, the CATV system shall, upon the request of the station licensee or permittee, refrain from duplicating any program broadcast by such station, on the same day as its broadcast by the station, if the CATV operator has received notification from the requesting station of the date and time of its broadcast of the program and the date and time of its broadcast to be deleted, as soon as possible and in any event no later than 48 hours prior to the broadcast to be deleted. Upon request of the CATV system, such notice shall be given at least 8 days prior to the date of the broadcast to be deleted.

(f) *Exceptions.* Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (f) of this section,

(1) The CATV system need not delete reception of a network program if, in doing, it would leave available for reception by subscribers, at any time, less than the programs of two networks (including those broadcast by stations whose signals are being carried and whose program exclusivity is being protected pursuant to the requirements of this section);

(2) The system need not delete reception of a network program which is scheduled by the network between the hours of 6 and 11 p.m., eastern time, if it is broadcast by the station requesting deletion, in whole or in part, outside of the period which would normally be considered prime time for network programming in the time zone involved;

(3) The system need not delete reception of any program consisting of a broadcast coverage of a speech or other event as to which the time of the event is of special significance, except where the program is being simultaneously broadcast by a station entitled to program exclusivity; and

(4) The system need not delete reception of any program which would be carried on the system in color but will be broadcast in black and white by the station requesting deletion.

105 NOTIFICATION PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF NEW SERVICE

A CATV system shall commence operations or commence supplying to its subscribers the signal of any television broadcast station carried beyond the grade B contour of that station, unless the system has given prior notice of the proposed new service to the licensee or permittee of any television broadcast station within whose predicted grade B contour the system operates or operates, and to the licensee or permittee of any 100 w or higher power translator station operating in the community of the system, and has furnished a copy of each such notification to the Federal Communications Commission, within 60 days after obtaining a franchise or entering into a lease or other arrangement to use facilities; in any event, no CATV system shall commence such operations until 30 days after notice has been given. Such notice shall be given by existing systems which propose to carry new distant signals at least 30 days prior to commencing service and by systems which propose to extend lines into obviously new geographic areas within 60 days after obtaining a franchise or entering into a lease or

other arrangement to use facilities or, where no new local authorization or contractual arrangement is necessary, at least 30 days prior to commencement of service. Where it is proposed to extend the signal of any noncommercial educational television station beyond its grade B contour into a community with an unoccupied reserved educational television channel assigned under § 73.606 of this chapter, the notice shall also be served upon the superintendents of schools in the community and county in which the station will operate and the local, area, and State educational television agency, if any. The notice shall include the name and address of the station, identification of the community to be served, the television signals to be distributed, and the estimated time operations will commence. When a petition with respect to the proposed service is filed with the Commission pursuant to § 74.1109 of this chapter, within 30 days after notice of the service to subscribers shall not be commenced until after the Commission has ruled on the petition or on the interlocutory question of temporary relief pending further procedures; *Provided*, however, that service shall not be commenced in violation of the terms of any specified temporary relief granted under the provisions of § 74.1107 of this chapter. Where no petition pursuant to § 74.1109 has been filed within 30 days after notice, service may be commenced at any time thereafter, subject, however, to the provisions of § 74.1107. The provisions of this section do not apply to any signals which were being supplied to subscribers of the CATV system on March 17, 1961.

NOTE 1.—As used in § 74.1105, the term "predicted grade B contour" means the intensity contour defined in § 73.683(a) of this chapter, the location of which is determined exclusively by means of the calculations prescribed in § 73.684 of this chapter.

§ 74.1107 REQUIREMENT FOR SHOWING IN EVIDENTIARY HEARING AND COMMISSION APPROVAL IN TOP 100 TELEVISION MARKETS; PROCEDURES

(a) No CATV system operating within the predicted grade A contour of a television broadcast station in the 100 largest television markets shall extend the signal of a television broadcast station beyond the grade B contour of that station, except upon a showing, approved by the Commission, that such extension would be consistent with the public interest, and would not unduly interfere with the establishment and healthy maintenance of television broadcast service in the area. Commission approval of a request to extend a signal in the foregoing circumstances will be granted where the Commission, after consideration of the request and all related materials in a full evidentiary hearing, determines that the requisite showing has been made. The size of the area shall be determined by the rating of the American Research Bureau on the basis of the net weekly circulation for the most recent year.

(b) A request under paragraph (a) of this section shall be filed after the CATV system has obtained any necessary franchise for operation and has entered into a lease or other arrangement to use facilities and shall set forth the name of the community involved, the date on which a franchise was obtained, the signal or signals proposed to be extended beyond the grade B contours, and the specific reasons why it is urged that such extension is consistent with the public interest. Public notice will be given of the filing of such a request, and interested parties may file a response or comment within 30 days after such public notice. A reply to such response statement may be filed within a 20-day period thereafter. The Commission shall designate the request for an evidentiary hearing on issues so specified, with the burden of proof and the burden of proceeding with the introduction of evidence upon the CATV system making the request, and otherwise specified by the Commission as to particular issues.

(c) No CATV system, located so as to fall outside the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section, shall extend the signal of a television broadcast station beyond the grade B contour of that station, where the Commission, upon its own motion or pursuant to a petition filed under § 74.1109, determines, after appropriate proceedings, that such extension would be consistent with the public interest, taking into account particularly the establishment and healthy maintenance of television broadcast service in the area.

(d) The provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall be applicable to any signals which were being supplied by a CATV system

its subscribers on February 15, 1966, and pursuant to a franchise (where necessary) issued on or before that date; provided, however, that any new franchise or amendment of an existing franchise after February 15, 1966, to operate or extend the operations of the CATV system in the same general area does come within the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section; and provided further that no CATV system located in the 100 largest television markets, which was supplying to its subscribers on February 15, 1966, a signal carried beyond its grade B contour, shall extend its service to new geographical areas where the Commission, upon petition filed under § 74.1109 by a television broadcast station located in the area and after consideration of the response of the CATV system and appropriate proceedings, determine that the public interest, taking into account the considerations set forth in the second report and order in dockets Nos. 95, 15233, and 15971, FCC 66-220, paragraphs 113-149, would be served by appropriate conditions limiting the geographical extension of the system to new areas. In the event that an evidentiary hearing is held on such a petition, the Commission may also consider, upon the basis of the pleadings before it, whether temporary relief pending the outcome of the hearing is needed for in the public interest, and, if so, the nature of such relief; no CATV system coming within the foregoing provision shall extend its service to new geographical areas in violation of the terms of the specified temporary relief.

§ 74.1109 PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO PETITIONS FOR WAIVER OF THE RULES, ADDITIONAL OR DIFFERENT REQUIREMENTS AND RULINGS ON COMPLAINTS OR DISPUTES

- a) Upon petition by a CATV system, an applicant, permittee, or licensee of a television broadcast, translator, or microwave relay station, or by any other interested person, the Commission may waive any provision of the rules relating to the distribution of television broadcast signals by CATV systems, impose additional or different requirements, or issue a ruling on a complaint or disputed question.
- b) The petition may be submitted informally, by letter, but shall be accompanied by an affidavit of service on any CATV system, station licensee, permittee, applicant, or other interested person who may be directly affected by the relief requested in the petition should be granted.
- c) (1) The petition shall state the relief requested and may contain alternative requests. It shall state fully and precisely all pertinent facts and considerations relied upon to demonstrate the need for the relief requested and to support a determination that a grant of such relief would serve the public interest. Factual allegations shall be supported by affidavit of a person or persons with actual knowledge of the facts, and exhibits shall be verified by the person who prepares them.
- (2) A petition for a ruling on a complaint or disputed question shall set forth all steps taken by the parties to resolve the problem, except where the relief sought is a clarification or interpretation of the rules.
- d) Interested persons may submit comments or opposition to the petition within 30 days after it has been filed. Upon good cause shown in the petition, the Commission may, by letter or telegram to known interested persons, specify a shorter time for such submissions. Comments or oppositions shall be served on petitioner and on all persons listed in petitioner's affidavit of service, and shall contain a detailed full showing, supported by affidavit, of any facts or considerations relied upon.
- e) The petitioner may file a reply to the comments or oppositions within 10 days after their submission, which shall be served upon all persons who filed pleadings and shall also contain a detailed full showing, supported by affidavit, of any additional facts or considerations relied upon. Upon good cause shown, the Commission may specify a shorter time for the filing of reply comments.
- f) The Commission, after consideration of the pleadings, may determine whether the public interest would be served by the grant, in whole or in part, of the relief of the request, or may issue a ruling on the complaint or dispute. The Commission may specify other procedures, such as oral argument,

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evidentiary hearing, or further written submissions directed to parties, as it deems appropriate. In the event that an evidentiary hearing is required, the Commission will determine, on the basis of the pleadings and such other procedures as it may specify, whether temporary relief should be accorded to any party pending the hearing and the nature of any temporary relief. Where a petition involves new service to subscribers (other than service coming within the provisions of § 74.1107(a) of this chapter), the Commission will expedite its consideration and promptly issue a ruling either on the merits of the petition or on the interlocutory question of temporary relief pending further procedures.

(g) Where a request for temporary relief is contained in a petition with respect to service coming within the provisions of § 74.1107(d) of this chapter, opposition to such request for temporary relief shall be filed within 10 days and reply comments within 7 days thereafter. The Commission will expedite its consideration of the question of temporary relief.

III. Part 91 is amended as follows:

1. In section 91.557, paragraphs (a) and (b) are amended to read as follows and a new paragraph (i) is added as follows:

§ 91.557 DEFINITIONS

As used in §§ 91.559 and 91.561:

(a) *Community antenna television system*. The term "community antenna television system" ("CATV system") means any facility which in whole or in part, receives directly or indirectly over the air and amplifies or otherwise modifies the signals transmitting programs broadcast by one or more television stations and distributes such signals by wire or cable to subscribing members of the public who pay for such service, but such system shall not include (1) any such facility which serves fewer than fifty subscribers, or (2) any such facility which serves only the residents of one or more apartment dwellings under common ownership, control, or management, and commercial establishments located on the premises of such apartment house.

(b) *Television station; television broadcast station; television translator station*. The terms "television station" and "television broadcast station" means any television broadcasting station operating on a channel regularly assigned to its community by § 73.606 of this chapter. The term "television translator station" means a television translator station as defined in § 73.606 of this chapter. A television translator station which is licensed to rebroadcasts the programming of a television broadcast station within the station's grade B contour, shall be deemed an extension of the originating station.

(i) *Distant signal*. The term "distant signal" means the signal of a television broadcast station which is extended or received beyond the grade B contour of that station.

2. In section 91.559, paragraphs (a), (b) (3), (c), (e), and (f) are amended and paragraphs (g) (4) and (h) are added; and the note to section 91.559 is deleted.

§ 91.559 AUTHORIZATIONS FOR OPERATIONAL FIXED STATIONS TO RELAY TELEVISION SIGNALS TO CATV SYSTEMS * * *

(a) *Stations required to be carried*. Within the limits of its channel capacity, any such CATV system shall carry the signals of operating stations subsequently authorized television broadcast and 100 w or higher power television translator stations in the following order of priority, upon request of the licensee or permittee of the relevant station:

(1) First, all commercial and noncommercial educational stations within whose principal community contours the system operates, in whole or in part;

(2) Second, all commercial and noncommercial educational stations within whose grade A contours the system operates, in whole or in part;

(3) Third, all commercial and noncommercial educational stations within whose grade B contour the system operates, in whole or in part; and

(4) Fourth, all commercial and noncommercial educational translator stations operating in the community of the system with 100 w or higher power.

(b) *Exceptions.* * * *

(3) The system need not carry the signal of any television translator station if (i) the system is carrying the signal of the originating station, or (ii) the system is within the grade B or higher priority contour of a station carried on the cable whose programming is substantially duplicated by the translator.

(c) *Special requirements in the event of noncarriage.* Where the system does not carry the signals of one or more stations within whose grade B or higher priority contour it operates, or the signals of one or more 100 w or higher power translator stations located in its community, the system shall offer and maintain, for each subscriber, an adequate switching device to allow the subscriber to choose between cable and noncable reception, unless the subscriber affirmatively indicates in writing that he does not desire this device.

(e) *Stations entitled to program exclusivity.* Any such system which operates, in whole or in part, within the grade B or higher priority contour of any commercial or noncommercial educational television station or within the community of a fourth priority television translator station, and which carries the signal of such station shall, upon request of the station licensee or permittee, maintain the station's exclusivity as a program outlet against lower priority or more distant duplicating signals, but not against signals of equal priority, in the manner and to the extent specified in paragraphs (f) and (g) of this section.

(f) *Program exclusivity; extent of protection.* Where a station is entitled to program exclusivity, the CATV system shall, upon request of the station licensee or permittee, refrain from duplicating any program broadcast by such station on the same day as its broadcast by the station, if the CATV operator has received notification from the requesting station of the date and time of any of its broadcast of the program and the date and time of any broadcast to be deleted, as soon as possible and in any event no later than 48 hours prior to the broadcast to be deleted. Upon request of the CATV system, such notice shall be given at least 8 days prior to the date of any broadcast to be deleted.

(g) *Exceptions.* * * *

(4) The system need not delete reception of any program which would be carried on the system in color but will be broadcast in black and white by the station requesting deletion.

(h) *Interim requirement.* No CATV system shall be provided with microwave service, either directly or indirectly, if the operation of such CATV system would be inconsistent with § 74.1107 of this chapter.

Section 91.561 is amended to read as follows:

91.561 NOTIFICATION BY APPLICANT

An application for any authorization subject to § 91.559 shall contain a statement that the applicant has notified the licensee or permittee of any television broadcast station, within whose predicted grade B contour the CATV system(s) served or to be served operate or will operate, and the licensee or permittee of any 100 w or higher power translator station operating in the community of the system, of the filing of the application. Where it is proposed to extend the signal of any noncommercial educational television station beyond its grade B contour into a community with an unoccupied reserved educational television channel assignment under § 73.606 of this chapter, the notice shall also be served upon the superintendents of schools in the community and county and the local, area, and State educational television agencies, if any. Such statement of the applicant shall be supported by copies of the letters of notification directed to such licensees or

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RE.—Appendix C contains the pertinent rules as subsequently amended by Memorandum Opinion and Order released April 21, 1966 (31 F.R. 6313).]

permittees and educational interests. The notice shall include the fact intended filing by the applicant, identification of each CATV system served or to be served under the authorization sought, identification of the community served or to be served by each such CATV system, and the television station(s) whose programs will be distributed by each such CATV system.

NOTE.—As used in § 91.561, the term "predilected grade B contour" means the intensity contour defined in § 73.683(a) of this chapter, the location of which is determined exclusively by means of the calculations prescribed in § 73.684 of this chapter.

DISSENTING STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER ROBERT T. BARTLE

I dissent from the action asserting jurisdiction over community antenna systems. In my opinion, the Communications Act does not now confer such jurisdiction and the Commission is without authority to promulgate these rules.

I believe that we should seek legislation to resolve the basic considerations in this matter. Since the real concern surrounding CATV appears to be its possible evolution into pay-TV, I propose an amendment of the Communications Act to preclude community antenna systems from distributing programs other than those received from transmissions of broadcast stations.

I am opposed to the rule's impediments on entry of community antenna systems into the top 100 markets, and specification of the grade B contour, rather than the grade A or lesser contour, as the benchmark for requiring carriage of local TV stations.

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER KENNETH A. COX, CONCURRING IN PART AND DISSENTING IN PART

I concur in the steps the majority has taken, but must dissent to its failure to take other measures which I believe to be critically important. I think we are, indeed, at a crossroads in the development of our television system—and I gravely fear that the majority has taken a wrong turn.

The Commission has had a sorry record with respect to CATV. In the early 1950's when questions were first raised about CATV, the Commission's staff recommended that the agency assert and extend its jurisdiction over this new phenomenon.¹ However, the Commission of that day, not recognizing the potential impact of widespread CATV development, procrastinated and finally declined to assert general jurisdiction. At first, the consequences of that decision were not readily apparent—and were largely confined to small television markets where CATV, in most cases, performed its true supplementary function. Later the impact of CATV competition assumed more serious proportions, and the Commission began to shake off its inertia. In the *Carter Mountain* case² it denied an application for microwave facilities to serve CATV systems in Wyoming on the ground that the increased competition to a small market television station which would have resulted might have impaired its ability to continue to serve its audience. It indicated that it would grant applications on conditions designed to protect the station by requiring

¹ See Television Inquiry, hearings before the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, U.S. Senate, 85th Cong., pt. 6, p. 3490 *et seq.*

² *Carter Mountain Transmission Corp. v. Federal Communications Commission*, 351 U.S. 22d 359 (C.A.D.C.), cert. den. 375 U.S. 951 (1963).

the CATV systems carry the local station without degradation of signal and without duplicating its programs.

When last April, after more than 2 years of consideration of numerous comments and special studies by the Commission and the broadcast and CATV industries, we adopted minimal rules with respect to microwave-fed CATV systems and proposed to extend them to over-the-air systems as well. It seemed to me—as I'm sure it did to broadcasters who had become increasingly alarmed by the explosive growth of CATV and its extension into larger and well-served markets—that the Commission had finally taken hold of the problem, 14 months late, but in time to prevent serious damage to the fabric of our television service. The Commission was divided four to two, but the majority, after considering and carefully laying out the unfair competitive impact of noncarriage of local stations or duplication of their programs, adopted rules which I think would have gone far toward preserving the system so painfully developed in this country—and promoting its further growth in the UHF. These rules would neither have destroyed existing CATV systems, nor deprived their subscribers of any programs. Similarly, they would not have blocked all future CATV development, but would simply have moved toward insuring that cable systems perform the valuable supplemental service for which they were originally devised. A reading of our first report and order in Docket Nos. 14895 and 15233, 38 F.C.C. 683, with its careful analysis of competition between broadcast stations and CATV systems—with particular emphasis upon the program exclusivity obtained in the market by broadcasters and its importance to their operations—gives me the clear impression that the majority was concerned first and foremost with the preservation and expansion of our over-the-air television system. While it recognized the important service CATV systems can supply to their subscribers, it insisted that CATV was secondary and subordinate in rank, and should therefore be subjected to quite the strictest restrictions to favor the primary service.

It is now, less than a year later, the tone is different. In the report and order now issued—and even more in the deliberations leading up to the decisions reflected there—there has been a shift in emphasis. There is a subtly heightened importance assigned to the diversity of service which cable systems provide to *some* television homes,³ with the corresponding depreciation of the local service of area stations. There are expressions of concern that we not block the “new” technology of wired television—though the alternative of wired versus broadcast distribution has long been with us, both in radio and television, and it seems to me that CATV's technology, like its programming, is derivative and much less exciting in its possibilities than the over-the-air mode. And there is a tendency to downgrade program diversity—which seemed so important last April—and to forget the unfair competitive impact on broadcast operations of the CATV

³ Indicated below, I think this is largely due to the vociferous protests, instigated by publicizing efforts of certain elements of the CATV industry, of these cable subscribers. While they are a small percentage of the television homes in this country—and a minority even in the television markets where they are concentrated—they are numerous enough to have flooded Congress and the Commission with protests against rules which they were told we were about to take, but which were always exaggerated and sometimes completely false.

practices which we then undertook to regulate. The shift is obvious in the reduction in the degree of nonduplication protection which is now to be afforded local broadcasters.

Why this change in attitude? I suppose it could be argued that colleagues who now feel that same-day nonduplication is more in public interest than the 15 days before and after local broadcast which we specified last April were simply uninformed when they took that action, and therefore made a mistake. They do not advance explanation, and I am sure it was not true. In fact, they gave more careful attention to consideration of the details of broadcast CATV operation last year than they did on this round of discussion.

It would be more normal for such a change in position to be explained in terms of new information which has come to our attention for the first time since our action of last year. This may be the case for what I regard as drastic impairment of the protection which then decided should be given to the exclusive program rights a broadcaster has acquired in the program market—but, if so, it has not been explained to me in these terms. I cannot claim that I read all the comments in this voluminous proceeding, but in the material I was able to examine—drawn from both broadcaster and CATV comments—and in the analysis of all the major comments prepared by staff, I find no new factual data, and no new arguments, bearing on this issue which satisfactorily explain or justify the abandonment of the 15-day standard previously adopted. And, as suggested above, none of my colleagues have marshaled arguments which they have drawn from the comments to rationalize this new approach. Instead, they talk vaguely of balancing interests and minimizing disruption to the subscribers of existing systems not yet subject to the rules, and of the importance of making network programs available to these subscribers on the day they are presented by the networks. If that of these considerations is so important it seems strange to me that in years we have knowingly permitted television stations to delay network programs for the far more numerous over-the-air audience. Why has no one ever proposed a rule to prohibit this nefarious practice?

The fact is, of course, that except for certain live programs having an element of timeliness—all of which were excluded from the benefit of delayed nonduplication, and are almost never delayed in practice—there is no real urgency about seeing a particular program on a particular day or at a particular time. There may be an element of convenience, but it is one of the disadvantages of the television medium that the viewer must try to adjust his schedule to fit the times something else—at a network or a local station—has selected for the presentation of his favorite programs, and can change at will. It is important that as many network programs as possible be made available in the market. But as I shall point out below, the nonduplication rule adopted seems to me to be based on the concept that it is better for the cable subscribers, who are a minority, to be able to see every network show on its day of origination than that they be furnished every network show, but with some of them delayed for a short period in order to make more of the most popular shows available to *everyone* in the market, nonsubscriber and subscriber alike.

would like to discuss in detail the discussion, in the first report in order in the microwave dockets, of the period of nonduplication protection to be required, but time does not permit it. Certainly this is one of the longest and most carefully reasoned sections in the document, occupying nine pages in the printed report (see pars. 101-107). I find the explanation now offered for abandoning the result we reached so insubstantial as to be shocking. Consider what the majority says in paragraphs 51 to 56. They start by saying that simultaneous nonduplication is clearly called for—which is hardly startling since even NCTA concedes this. It then notes that in the report we further determined that “some measure of protection and simultaneous nonduplication would also serve the public interest on a number of grounds.” I think that sets some sort of record for delicate understatement. After carefully considering the data accumulated in over 2 years, we explicitly found that *15-day* non-duplication, before and after local broadcast, was reasonably necessary to achieve fair competition and preserve the local broadcasters’ long-won program exclusivity.

Now the majority say they have reconsidered and made a different decision, “in light of the fact that the rules are now being made applicable to a large number of existing systems and will affect their existing service to the CATV viewing public.” Well, that was certainly thoroughly understood in April 1965, when we proposed to extend microwave rules to the off-the-air systems, and to apply them to microwave service being provided under grants made prior to December 1963. That was the object of the exercise! Why the sudden announcement—as if discovered for the first time—that compliance with the rules “would tend to substantially disrupt the viewing habits of the CATV subscribers.” While I don’t think the “disruption” is great as is suggested, and am satisfied that the subscribers would become accustomed to the new schedules, certainly we knew a year ago that *some* change would be effected by the rules—otherwise why bother of adopting them. All we have learned since then is, by the application of some misleading publicity techniques, several hundred thousand subscribers were frightened into sending protest—usually form letters or cards thoughtfully supplied by the TV operator—to the Commission or the Congress. While I am not anxious to face the wrath of an aroused public than anyone else, I think some hazard of that kind is involved in making judgments deemed to serve the overall public interest but which injure or offend a part of the public. Furthermore, I think it could be demonstrated to the people concerned that their fears were exaggerated—that in a rather short time they would adjust to the few scheduling changes which would actually be involved.

In other words, I agree that we should avoid *unnecessary* disruption of established viewing habits, but not that we should do so “as much as possible”—which to the majority apparently means that such consideration for established, if fleeting, habits of a very small part of the television audience should shape national television policy, not just them but for all future subscribers of all future systems as well. The majority says it seeks to preserve “the valuable public contribu-

tion of CATV in providing wider access to nationwide program. I agree that far, but not that there is any necessity for insuring wider selection of programs on any particular day for a favored viewer when I believe it will deprive others of the opportunity, otherwise available, to see certain programs at all. The basic objective of permitting CATV systems to provide greater access to network programs can be fully achieved, as was pointed out in the first report, with 15-day nonduplication.

The majority then blandly announces that "balancing all the pertinent considerations," they think nonduplication should be cut to the same day for existing systems. I don't know what they balance since all they have discussed is the danger that some CATV subscribers—certainly not all of them—would have been required to forego some network programs—certainly not all of them—at the times when they are broadcast by the local station or stations rather than at the times when the cable system would otherwise have brought the programs in from distant stations. The only argument then advanced in favor of the result is that it will eliminate the great bulk of delayed nonduplication requests, citing paragraph 125 of the first report. I think this is a very good argument for the opposite result! Paragraph 125 read as follows:

125. There remains the question of the precise extent of the restriction to be imposed upon nonsimultaneous duplication. After examining the question carefully, we believe that the 15-day before-and-after period proposed in our last notice should be adopted. In dealing with network programs, our sample week study shows that, of all the hours of delayed network broadcasts, 10.2 percent were delayed less than 1 day, 48.9 percent were delayed from 1 to 7 days, 30.2 percent were delayed 8 to 15 days, and 10.7 percent were delayed over 15 days. A more detailed distribution shows that the number of hours of delayed network broadcasts falls off sharply at the end of a 7-day period of delay and once again at the end of a 15-day period.

Thus our study showed that 79.1 percent of delayed network broadcasts were delayed from 1 to 15 days, *and this was used as a principal justification for the 15-day protection adopted.* Now it is argued that reducing the protection to the same day is good because it avoids dealing with the problem the rule was designed to handle in the first place. The majority notes, "as an incidental benefit," that this will also substantially reduce the areas of possible dispute between broadcasters and CATVs in complying with the rules." Quite so—but the result is achieved by cutting the heart out of this part of the rules and reducing the rights of the broadcasters to such a low level that their opportunities for causing "disputes" are very slight. What seems odd to me is that we achieve this happy accommodation by favoring the party in this prospective "dispute" whom the first report found to be engaged in unfair competition in the area of program duplication, to the advantage of the party whose program rights the rules were designed to protect.

The majority then concedes that its concern about disruption of service as a result of 15-day nonduplication would not apply to new systems going into service hereafter. Thus even if we must defer to the private interests of a relatively few people in not having their viewing habits disrupted in the slightest, it is clear that the more effective protection of

policy adopted in the first report could be applied to new systems since their subscribers would have no established viewing patterns. But the majority does not even adhere to policy in this partial fashion. They say that even here there would be disruption because the subscriber may not be able to view programs from distant stations at the times specified in his TV guide. They are so solicitous of the future subscriber that, again, they completely overlook the interests of the nonsubscriber. What about the "disruption" suffered by the resident of a sparsely settled area who has no cable service, or the urban viewer who can't afford such service, and who read in this same unspecified TV guide⁴ of programs carried on distant stations on the cable but which are not available to them on the local station(s), though they would have been if the local broadcaster's first-run rights had been adequately protected? There has been a lot of talk that the Commission's regulation of CATV operations would make second class citizens of cable viewers. It seems to me that the majority has gone overboard in the other direction by shaping policy to accord a ridiculous degree of importance to these people's assumed interests. It's hard for me to sympathize for the cable subscriber who is going to receive more stations—though probably no more real services—than the people of New York City but who, we are now told, must not only have this wealth of program choice but must also have every program available to him the same day it is made available to viewers in New York.

I would like to expand upon the impact I think this curtailed protection will have on the nonsubscriber. In one- and two-station markets the local broadcaster tries to put together the best possible schedule for his viewers, drawing on more than one network. Since conflicts are almost inevitable between the more popular programs of the competing networks, this has customarily meant that most of the programs are presented at the time of network feed, if the station is interconnected, but some are broadcast on a delayed basis. While some CATV interests have sought to denigrate this practice by calling it "cherry picking," it seems clear to me that it has served—and would continue to serve—the public interest by making available in markets with less than three stations the best of the offerings of all three networks. And delayed broadcasting serves the public even in a three-station market, permitting the local affiliate to rearrange the network schedule, to a limited degree his network and its advertisers will permit, in order to present a service which he thinks is more in the interest of his local audience. I think such local flexibility is in the public interest and should be preserved. A couple of years ago the Commission abolished protection time and struck down CBS's incentive compensation plan because, in part, they impaired the local station's independence in reaching decisions as to clearance for programs offered it by its network. I think the clear result of the restricted nonduplication protection now being afforded will be to impel every station located in a three-station market and carried on CATV systems serving a substantial percentage of its audience to clear live for all the network shows it plans to pre-

⁴ Certainly if 15-day protection were afforded the CATV operator would not publicize locally any programs he could be required to delete, but would tell his subscribers when they could watch the programs on the cable on the local station.

sent. I do not think this straightjacketing of the local broadcaster desirable.

I think the impact will be even greater in markets with one or two stations. To the extent they now delay network programs—which day nonduplication was specifically designed to protect—I think these stations have been providing a service to their audiences. I think they will now be sharply restricted in their ability to continue this service, if not totally precluded from doing so. As long as only a small portion of their audience is served by cable systems, they can probably continue to present programs on a delayed basis even though some of the potential viewers will have seen the program a short time earlier. If and when cable subscribers become a really significant factor in the market—and such operations are expanding at a rapid pace—then the broadcaster will not, I think, be able to continue to present programs selected from more than one network. It will be difficult enough to compete with the current offerings of a substantial number of distant stations—probably located in a larger market—without trying to do so with a program which a third, a half, or more of the local station's audience have already had an opportunity to watch. The majority in paragraph 51, tries to shore up its argument about "disruption" to new systems by saying that it is because of such concerns that some broadcasters, although entitled to 15-day protection, have requested only simultaneous nonduplication. In paragraph 116 of the first report we stated that NCTA had shown "a few instances" of such concessions by broadcasters, but did not regard this as of decisional importance. In the cases I know of where broadcasters who were entitled to *no* protection under the rules were able to bargain for simultaneous nonduplication, the result has been that they presented delayed programs, or at most one or two.

The majority seeks to support its refusal to give greater nonduplication protection as to new CATV systems by arguing that it is obviously preferable to have one set of rules for all systems. Of course I would prefer that, too, though I think the single rule should provide for day protection. But we quite often adopt tightened rules which will bear harshly on existing operations, and in most cases we handle the problem by grandfathering the situations which have already developed and applying the new rule prospectively. That is exactly what we could do here—and should do since my colleagues are unwilling to inconvenience the subscribers of existing cable systems. This is common governmental practice, and often involves much more substantial discriminations than would be the case here.

The majority then turns to the question whether it should require 15-day nonduplication protection for nonnetwork programming. It decides not to do so for the surprising reason that it afforded minimum protection at best. In other words, having given very restricted nonduplication protection to nonnetwork programs out of concern for CATV systems (see par. 123, first report), the Commission now withdraws even that effort to insure the local station of a small fraction of the program exclusivity for which it has bargained. Why, then, do we make this provision last April, when we knew as much about the aspect of the matter as we do now? I agree that 15 days is no enough.

and am satisfied that we will do serious damage to the present method of program distribution unless we give the broadcaster at least protection of his right to be the first to present each program he purchases for his market. The majority says it has determined that we must look elsewhere if we are to achieve effective relief in this respect. This refers to some extension of the concept of permission to rebroadcast to sole operations. I think that this requires legislation, which may take a long time—and in any event I do not think it will necessarily provide the protection the majority seems to be seeking—though not very aggressively. The legislative proposal we have submitted to Congress calls attention to the problem but makes no specific recommendation. In paragraph 152(iii) the majority concedes that they are not in a position to state whether a section 325(a) approach would be effective and fully consistent with the public interest. That being the case, I do not think they are in a position to abandon the only protection now given the broadcaster—minimal though it is.

The majority drops an interesting footnote to paragraph 55, in which it says that same-day nonduplication affords "substantial" protection to the most popular network programming so that "most network affiliated stations should be viable." [Emphasis supplied.] It must be encouraging to broadcasters faced with serious and growing CATV competition to know that the majority thinks that not too many of them will go under—with loss not only to the businessmen concerned, but also to the local audiences they serve.

In paragraph 56 the majority concedes that conflicting public considerations are presented—though they have carefully avoided mentioning a single factor favoring retention of 15-day protection—and include that their resolution constitutes a fair compromise. I fail to see much evidence of this alleged balancing of competing interests. It seems to me that zeal to avoid at all costs any disruption to existing cable subscribers has carried the day. I don't think this matter was really in issue at this stage of the proceeding. We did indicate that we wanted comments as to policy with respect to duplication of programs broadcast by the local station in black and white but available in color on a distant station on the cable. The parties duly addressed themselves to this question. But as to the extent of nonduplication protection, I think the general understanding was that we had reached a careful decision of this issue last April in adopting the microwave rules, and that if we adhered to our tentative conclusion as to jurisdiction over all CATV, there would be no change in this provision of the rules unless (1) experience with the microwave rules uncovered flaws, (2) someone demonstrated that off-the-air systems are so different that these rules could not appropriately be carried over to them. I know of no evidence of the former, and no one seriously tried to establish the latter—not even the NCTA, which simply incorporated the arguments it made to Congress last May in an effort to show that certain stations had prospered without delayed nonduplication.

But without any such showing of a need for change in the comments made in the proceeding, the majority has abandoned the position it developed so carefully last year. I suppose this simply proves the power of the pen when wielded by thousands of indignant members

of the public—even when they have been intentionally misled in writing in the first place. I think this provides an interesting—though rather depressing—chapter for students of the administrative process.

I agree that same-day nonduplication takes care of the time-to-air differential problem, but that's about all that it does over and above simultaneous nonduplication which NCTA was willing to concede months ago. The majority says it will afford the station affiliated with more than one network "some leeway" in presenting the most attractive programs of each, but then indicates just how much leeway the broadcaster has by reminding him that he must present it the same day the network did and that prime-time programs must be broadcasted entirely within prime time. It may be that he can shoehorn in a few programs on this basis, though I believe it will require some change in policy by some of the networks—and will certainly involve additional expense for the station. Thus if it has been delaying network programs through the use of film, it would have to buy a videotape machine—and that's no small expense item, especially if he has to be able to handle color in order to be entitled to protection. Further, unless the network in question provides him an advance feed, he will have to have two loops into his studio, one for the live broadcast going out over the air and the other to feed the tape machine with a program coming in at the same time from another network. Since one- and two-station markets are usually small, this may pose serious problems for the broadcaster, and he may simply throw up his hands and cancel the full schedule of a single network to avoid trouble and expense. If he does, the public will lose by it—and so will he, in terms of lower average audience. I much prefer the greater flexibility permitted by the 15-day rule, and do not think the majority has even addressed themselves to this problem—much less assured themselves that what they speak of is feasible.

The majority inserts another footnote at this point, noting that the amount of delayed network broadcasting in the median one- or two-station markets is about 5½ hours and 11 hours per week, respectively. They cite paragraph 108 of the first report, which also shows that in one-station markets the range was from ½ to 23½ hours, and in two-station markets, from 1 to 42½ hours. So when they concede that the median is not insignificant and that there will be some detriment to the public if the local station curtails delayed broadcasts, they must also recognize that for half the markets involved (84 one-station and 72 two-station) the impact will be more severe. Nonetheless, they console themselves with the thought that the amount of delayed broadcasts is not too large in the median market. But what puzzles me is that it is this unwillingness to "disrupt" established viewing patterns as to these very same programs which led them to cut back on nonduplication protection. If they worry about showing these 5½ or 11 hours of programming at later times to CATV subscribers, why are they so nonchalant about the risk that the equal, or greater, number of nonsubscribers now lose all, or a substantial part, of that programming? I would think that any sensible balancing of equities here would favor the nonsubscribers.

The other area of my disagreement with the majority concerns their treatment of the major market, distant stations issue. Since they will do no more, I support what they have done. However, I would have preferred a broader rule—which I am sure that would be easier to administer than the policy of multiple petitions, waiver requests, and hearings to which we are now committed.

Certain of the broadcast entities filing comments in this proceeding urged us to exercise our authority under section 303(h) of the act to "establish areas or zones to be served by any stations." It was obviously suggested that this be done by limiting CATV systems to a mileage of stations providing a specified signal over the communities in which they are located, or by specifying a maximum mileage beyond which no station's signal should be extended. This is clearly a respect of our responsibility for allocations—an area in which even critics of the Commission concede our authority, and in fact recognize that the agency was created primarily and specifically for this purpose. We have thus far exercised this authority in television by establishing a carefully designed table of channel allocations and by fixing maximum limits on heights and powers. While there are many situations in which deficiencies in service can and should be corrected by supplemental means such as CATV, satellites, and translators, I do not believe that any of these auxiliary services should be permitted to disrupt the basic television system that Congress, the Commission, and broadcasters have worked so hard to establish.

It is precisely because one of these supplemental services, CATV, has undertaken a new and unexpected course that we are involved in this proceeding. I think its explosive development poses a threat of disruption to our television broadcast system, and that this is therefore the reason to take hold of the problems presented and to fit cable operations into an appropriate place in the overall television structure. While the majority has undertaken to deal with part of these problems, I think it is not doing so in allocations terms and will, as a result, be unable to deal with the situation soundly, consistently, and expeditiously. The majority contents itself with saying that CATV entrepreneurs trying to bring distant signals—that is, signals carried beyond the originating stations' grade B contours—into the top 100 television markets will be required to demonstrate, in an evidentiary hearing, that they will not impair UHF development there or serve as a springboard to pay-TV. I would greatly prefer an approach which would encourage new systems—for a 5-year period which would allow time for UHF growth and, perhaps, resolution of the copyright question—without extending any station's signal beyond its grade B contour, except upon authorization by the Commission in certain carefully defined situations. For example, I think we should permit greater extension of service by CATV systems where they carry signals into communities already receiving three network service over the air. But without some limitation which would stem the proliferation of cable systems in areas already receiving substantial television service, I am afraid CATV will stunt future growth of our free television system, and perhaps even impair the viability of some of the stations now serving the public.

Even assuming that we should employ the majority's hearing procedure, instead of a rule which I think might be sounder legally, certainly simpler to manage, I would not cut it off at the top markets. While it is true that much current UHF activity is centered in these major markets, and that the risk of CATV becoming a threat to TV on the basis of signals appropriated from the broadcaster is greatest there, I think there are compelling reasons for treating smaller markets in the same way.

It seems to me that the majority's concerns about economic impact and fair competition apply with even greater force in these smaller markets. Certainly many of the more than 130 stations in the smaller markets are marginal operations, and therefore much less able to withstand duplication of their programs and fragmentation of their audiences than the more profitable stations in larger cities. I therefore do not think it is logical to subject them to greater exposure to CATV competition than the stations in major markets, which it will be the effect of the majority's different treatment of the smaller markets.

One ground for this cutoff at the 100th market given by the majority is the fact that any delay incidental to the hearing procedures required is mitigated by the fact that the major markets generally have a considerable amount of service now, plus the prospects of new service. However, most of the markets from 75 to 100 have not more than 3 existing stations, while 20 markets below 100 also have 3 or 4 stations. It is true that the larger the market, the greater the likelihood that someone will be interested in building a fourth station. However, there has been interest in UHF stations to provide a fourth service in markets as far down as the 93d, and it seems likely that favorable conditions can be maintained, in due course such developments can be expected in still smaller markets. Similarly, there should eventually be interest in putting third stations on the air in the small 2-station markets. Beyond that, the Commission has not made many allocations of single UHF channels to medium sized communities, and is presently proposing a class of low-power community stations to serve many more even smaller communities. Unless all these plans are to fail, the purposes of Congress in enacting the all-channel legislation to be frustrated, and this country to be left with a stunted television system, our regulation of CATV operations must characterize their growth in ways which will not add to the problems facing upcoming UHF stations.

While the majority's proposal does not exclude the smaller markets from all relief, it at the very least raises procedural difficulties which I think impose unreasonable burdens on the very stations least able to bear them. In the first place, they must initiate the proceedings to consider the role of CATV in their market, while in the top 100 markets this burden is upon the CATV applicants. Then it seems to be suggested that different presumptions apply here, or that the burden of proof is shifted to the broadcaster, whereas in the larger markets it is on the CATV operator. It seems to me that in *all* markets, the burden should be upon the CATV interests to demonstrate that their projected operations will not damage or destroy local broadcast service.

of critical importance, of course, is what happens while the Commission is pondering these cases. In the major markets, presumably CATV activity must halt until we approve their entry. In the smaller markets, however, they can go ahead unless and until we act favorably on a request for stay.

Furthermore, the majority makes clear that in the top 100 markets private agreements between broadcasters and cable operators, though to be given weight, will not be controlling. However, this proviso apparently does not apply below the 100th market, and I'm afraid some broadcasters or prospective broadcasters in the smaller markets, faced with the added burdens outlined above, may try to work out arrangements whereby they will acquire partial interests in the CATV systems proposed for their areas in return, in part at least, for not instituting procedures to protest the CATV developments. While this may, to some degree at least, solve their personal financial problems, I am not sure it will adequately protect the public's interest in a available and potential free broadcast service. I certainly hope the small broadcasters will not take this course, but under the majority's procedures CATV can spread unchecked in these small markets unless someone—a broadcaster or a prospective applicant—goes to the trouble and expense of filing a protest.

One final thing concerns me about this different treatment of the smaller markets—I am afraid it will undercut our policy in the top 100 markets. If we permit the signals of the New York City independents to be put on CATV systems in smaller markets scattered around the country in areas falling between major markets, it seems to me this will create pressures to relax our policies so that the same service can be offered there. In paragraph 54 the majority justifies its failure to continue 15-day nonduplication as to new CATV systems by saying it would be anomalous to have different rules applicable to proposals there. If they think that cable subscribers would object to mere delay in presenting programs that people in neighboring towns can see on the day of network release, what do they expect to happen when people in the top 100 markets find that they cannot get a service available to residents in smaller towns all around them?

The only way to deal realistically with this problem is to impose limits on the distance to which signals can be carried. I would treat all communities receiving usable services of the three networks alike, and require a showing in every case before permitting institution or extension of CATV operations employing distant signals.

SEPARATE STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER LEE LOEVINGER RE SECOND REPORT AND ORDER IN CATV PROCEEDINGS

I concur in the substantive provisions of the order but I cannot join in the opinion or agree that the Commission has the jurisdiction which it now asserts.

The opinion (here called "second report") which purports to support the present order seems to me to illustrate many of the worst aspects of the institutional decision. The opinion does not really rationalize or justify the result reached, but rather accepts it some-

what grudgingly. This is a product of the fact that the opinion was originally drafted by the staff to support an entirely different result. Despite the efforts and instructions of the Commission, and a series of revised drafts, the instant opinion is substantially similar to the document which was written to support a different result. The opinion refers to little evidence and much of that is inconsistent, assumptions and speculation substitute for facts, the reasoning is circuitous and illogical, and the statement is so turgid and prolix that it does more to obscure than illuminate the subject. I can concur fully only in paragraphs 97, 98, 150, and 156 to the extent of my concurrence in the order.

What the Commission is doing in the instant order is to exercise its quasi-legislative powers. Consequently the decision to issue or join in the instant order is a legislative judgment. I concur in the substantive provisions of the order not because I think it is wholly logical or the best method of dealing with the subject, but because it seems to me to be the best and most reasonable proposal that has any practical chance of securing approval by a majority of the Commission. This is, in my opinion, a legitimate basis for making a legislative judgment.

On the other hand, the assertion of jurisdiction is a legal matter that requires a legal judgment. Nothing has appeared or occurred since the previous Commission statement on this subject that furnishes any basis for reaching a different conclusion as to jurisdiction than the one set forth in my prior opinion. (38 FCC 683, 746 (1965)). Accordingly I adhere to that opinion and to the conclusions stated there.

The Commission rule requiring a hearing before CATV is permitted to commence operation in any of the 100 largest markets is particularly questionable. The ostensible justification is that CATV might become pay-TV. This reason is flimsy, since that danger—if it is danger—could be met much more easily by less burdensome requirements.

Nevertheless the substantive position now adopted by a majority of the Commission seems to me to be the most moderate and reasonable compromise of sharply conflicting views and positions that has any practical chance of approval. It is of the greatest importance that the Commission now recognizes the necessity of requesting Congress to legislate on jurisdiction and other important aspects of this matter and has done so. In these circumstances, I think the most constructive and useful course is to support affirmative action by the Commission, leaving the jurisdictional issue to decision by Congress and the courts, and looking to Congress for further guidance as to regulatory matters. Accordingly I concur in the substantive provisions of the legislative rules now promulgated by the Commission.

2 F.C.C. 2d

APPENDIX C

74.1105, 74.1107 AND 74.1109 OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES

47 CFR §§ 74.1105, 74.1107 AND 74.1109

(145)

* * * * *

§ 74.1105 Notification prior to the commencement of new service

No CATV system shall commence operations or commence supplying to its subscribers the signal of any television broadcast station carried beyond the Grade B contour of that station, unless the system has given prior notice of the proposed new service to the licensee or permittee of any television broadcast station within whose predicted Grade B contour the system operates or will operate, and to the licensee or permittee of any 100 watts or higher power translator station operating in the community of the system, and has furnished a copy of each such notification to the Federal Communications Commission, within sixty (60) days after obtaining a franchise or entering into a lease or other arrangement to use facilities; in any event, no CATV system shall commence such operations until thirty (30) days after notice has been given. Such notice shall be given by existing systems which propose to add new distant signals at least thirty (30) days prior to commencing service and by systems which propose to extend lines into obviously new geographic areas within sixty (60) days after obtaining a franchise or entering into a lease or other arrangement to use facilities or, where no new local authorization or contractual arrangement is necessary, at least thirty (30) days prior to commencing service. Where it is proposed to extend the signal of any noncommercial educational television station beyond its Grade B contour into a community with an unoccupied reserved educational television channel assignment under § 73.606 of this chapter,

the notice shall also be served upon the superintendents of schools in the community and county in which the system will operate and the local, area, and State educational television agencies, if any. The notice shall include the name and address of the system, identification of the community to be served, the television signals to be distributed, and the estimated time operations will commence. Where a petition with respect to the proposed service is filed with the Commission, pursuant to § 74.1109 of this chapter within thirty (30) days after notice, new service to subscribers shall not be commenced until after the Commission's ruling on the petition or on the interlocutory question of temporary relief pending further procedures; *Provided, however*, That service shall not be commenced in violation of the terms of any specified temporary relief or of the provisions of § 74.1107 of this chapter. Where no petition pursuant to § 74.1109 has been filed within thirty (30) days after notice, service may be commenced at any time thereafter, subject, however, to the provisions of § 74.1107. The provisions of this section do not apply to any signals which were being supplied to subscribers of the CATV system on March 17, 1966.

NOTE 1: As used in § 74.1105, the term "predicted Grade B contour" means the field intensity contour defined in § 73.683(a) of this chapter, the location of which is determined exclusively by means of the calculations prescribed in § 73.684 of this chapter.

§ 74.1107 *Requirement for showing in evidentiary hearing and Commission approval in top 100 television markets; other procedures*

(a) No CATV system operating within the predicted Grade A contour of a television broadcast station in the 100 largest television markets shall extend the signal of a television broadcast station beyond the

Grade B contour of that station, except upon a showing, approved by the Commission, that such extension would be consistent with the public interest, and specifically the establishment and healthy maintenance of television broadcast service in the area. Commission approval of a request to extend a signal in the foregoing circumstances will be granted where the Commission, after consideration of the request and all related materials in a full evidentiary hearing, determines that the requisite showing has been made. The market size shall be determined by the rating of the American Research Bureau, on the basis of the net weekly circulation for the most recent year.

(b) A request under paragraph (a) of this section shall be filed after the CATV system has obtained any necessary franchise for operation or has entered into a lease or other arrangement to use facilities and shall set forth the name of the community involved, the date on which a franchise was obtained, the signal or signals proposed to be extended beyond their Grade B contours, and the specific reasons why it is urged that such extension is consistent with the public interest. Public notice will be given of the filing of such a request, and interested parties may file a response or statement within thirty (30) days after such public notice. A reply to such responses or statement may be filed within a twenty (20) day period thereafter. The Commission shall designate the request for an evidentiary hearing on issues to be specified, with the burden of proof and the burden of proceeding with the introduction of evidence upon the CATV system making the request, unless otherwise specified by the Commission as to particular issues.

(c) No CATV system, located so as to fall outside the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section, shall extend the signal of a television broadcast station be-

yond the Grade B contour of that station, where the Commission, upon its own motion or pursuant to a petition filed under § 74.1109, determines, after appropriate proceedings, that such extension would be inconsistent with the public interest, taking into account particularly the establishment and healthy maintenance of television broadcast service in the area.

(d) The provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall not be applicable to any signals which were being supplied by a CATV system to its subscribers on February 15, 1966, and pursuant to a franchise (where necessary) issued on or before that date: *Provided, however*, That any new franchise or amendment of an existing franchise after February 15, 1966, to operate or extend the operations of the CATV system in the same general area does come within the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section: *And provided further*, That no CATV system located in the 100 largest television markets, which was supplying to its subscribers on February 15, 1966, a signal carried beyond its Grade B contour, shall extend its service to new geographical areas where the Commission, upon petition filed under § 74.1109 by a television broadcast station or other interested person located in the area and after consideration of the response of the CATV system and appropriate proceedings, determine that the public interest, taking into account the considerations set forth in the Second Report and Order in Docket Nos. 14895, 15233, and 15971, FCC 66-220, pars. 113-149, would be served by appropriate conditions limiting the geographical extension of the system to new areas. The Commission may also consider, upon the basis of the pleadings before it, whether temporary relief is called for in the public interest, and, if so, the nature of such relief: no CATV system coming within the fore-

going provision shall extend its service to new geographical areas in violation of the terms of the specified temporary relief.

[§ 74.1107(d) as amended eff. 4-26-66; III(64)-13]

§ 74.1109 Procedures applicable to petitions for waiver of the rules, additional or different requirements and rulings on complaints or disputes

(a) Upon petition by a CATV system, an applicant, permittee, or licensee of a television broadcast, translator, or microwave relay station, or by any other interested person, the Commission may waive any provision of the rules relating to the distribution of television broadcast signals by CATV systems, impose additional or different requirements, or issue a ruling on a complaint or disputed question.

(b) The petition may be submitted informally, by letter, but shall be accompanied by an affidavit of service on any CATV system, station licensee, permittee, applicant, or other interested person who may be directly affected if the relief requested in the petition should be granted.

(c) (1) The petition shall state the relief requested and may contain alternative requests. It shall state fully and precisely all pertinent facts and considerations relied upon to demonstrate the need for the relief requested and to support a determination that a grant of such relief would serve the public interest. Factual allegations shall be supported by affidavit of a person or persons with actual knowledge of the facts, and exhibits shall be verified by the person who prepares them.

(2) A petition for a ruling on a complaint or disputed question shall set forth all steps taken by the parties to resolve the problem, except where the

only relief sought is a clarification or interpretation of the rules.

(d) Interested persons may submit comments or opposition to the petition within thirty (30) days after it has been filed. Upon good cause shown in the petition, the Commission may, by letter or telegram to known interested persons, specify a shorter time for such submissions. Comments or oppositions shall be served on petitioner and on all persons listed in petitioner's affidavit of service, and shall contain a detailed full showing, supported by affidavit, of any facts or considerations relied upon.

(e) The petitioner may file a reply to the comments or oppositions within twenty (20) days after their submission, which shall be served upon all persons who have filed pleadings and shall also contain a detailed full showing, supported by affidavit, of any additional facts or considerations relied upon. Upon good cause shown, the Commission may specify a shorter time for the filing of reply comments.

(f) The Commission, after consideration of the pleadings, may determine whether the public interest would be served by the grant, in whole or in part, or denial of the request, or may issue a ruling on the complaint or dispute. The Commission may specify other procedures, such as oral argument, evidentiary hearing, or further written submissions directed to particular aspects, as it deems appropriate. In the event that an evidentiary hearing is required, the Commission will determine, on the basis of the pleadings and such other procedures as it may specify, whether temporary relief should be accorded to any party pending the hearing and the nature of any such temporary relief. Where a petition involves new service to subscribers (other than service coming within the provisions of § 74.1107(a) of this chapter),

he Commission will expedite its consideration and promptly issue a ruling either on the merits of the petition or on the interlocutory question of temporary relief pending further procedures.

(g) Where a request for temporary relief is contained in a petition with respect to service coming within the provisions of § 74.1107(d) of this chapter, opposition to such request for temporary relief shall be filed within ten (10) days and reply comments within seven (7) days thereafter. The Commission will expedite its consideration of the question of temporary relief.

(h) Where a petition for waiver of the provisions of § 74.1103(a) of this chapter is filed within fifteen (15) days after a request for carriage, the system need not carry the signal of the requesting station pending the Commission's ruling on the petition or on the interlocutory question of temporary relief pending further procedures.

Subpart K (§§ 74.1101-74.1109) as adopted eff. 6-18-66, except for § 74.1103 which is eff. 6-17-66 as it pertains to existing operations of nonmicrowave ATV systems and §§ 74.1105, 74.1107, and 74.1109 which are eff. 3-17-66; III(64)-12; § 74.1109(h) as adopted eff. 6-17-66; III(64)-13.]

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APPENDIX D

COMMENTS OF MIDWEST TELEVISION, INC.

DOCKET NO. 15971, FILED JULY 26, 1965

[Excerpts]

(155)

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V. THE COMMISSION SHOULD BY RULE STAY ALL FURTHER CATV ACTIVITY WITH PROVISION FOR APPROPRIATE EXCEPTIONS

A. THERE IS A VITAL NEED FOR EFFECTIVE INTERIM ACTION

29. The Commission has concluded that interim policies must be immediately implemented in order to place necessary restraints on CATV expansion pending the outcome of this proceeding. No other conclusion is possible in light of the virtually unrestrained mushrooming of CATV, in light of the very limited regulations now applicable to CATV and in view of the grave and immediate threat to the maintenance and development of UHF stations. Such an approach might not be necessary if CATV continued only within its historic role as a supplementary "fill-in" service. But that is not the case. Important CATV interests are intent upon making CATV a primary service, which will supplant instead of supplement free local and area television broadcast service. This is clear from repeated pronouncements of CATV industry leaders and from the direction in which CATV is moving.

30. If unchecked, the present trend will result, at the very least, in impairment of the service of existing local and area television stations and the frustration of UHF development. At worst, the present nationwide system of allocations and the principle of free television service provided by local and area stations attuned to the interests and needs of the areas they serve and provided to the entire public, whether rich or poor or urban or rural, will be replaced by a

wired television system, with programs originated in a few large metropolitan cities available only to those who can or will pay and only to those who live where there is sufficient population density to justify the laying of cables.

31. Appropriate carriage and non-duplication requirements, although essential to an effective system of CATV regulation, are not sufficient to meet these problems. CATV is increasingly importing and attempting to import distant stations into communities which are served by local and area television stations and into communities where the potential for the development of UHF stations is the greatest, as well as into communities which would be served by them and upon which UHF will depend for its development. Wholly apart from the matter of non-duplication and even if the Commission extends the period of non-duplication treatment as proposed above, the importation of distant stations will so fragment audience as to weaken the capacity of existing stations to serve the public or cause their demise and to preclude new UHF stations from going on the air or staying on the air if they do go on the air.

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2. The critical situation in San Diego

40. Midwest's concern with the unrestrained proliferation of CATV is by no means confined to central Illinois. In Southern California, within the service area of Midwest's station KFMB-TV, San Diego CATV has been growing at great speed. The first system in that area was franchised in March of 1963. Since then, seven additional systems have been franchised—one in September 1964 and two in just the last three months. All eight systems are within the Grade A contour of KFMB-TV, which falls within the metropolitan San Diego area; four of the systems are located in San Diego itself. System construction

does not of course begin until sometime after grant of a franchise, and four of the eight San Diego area CATV systems are not yet operative (though two of the four are expected to begin operating momentarily). Figures as to the number of subscribers these systems have secured are not public and, although Midwest has tried to obtain current data, the information was not made available. As of February 1965, the number was roughly estimated at approximately 10,000 homes. However, the installation of new cable has been proceeding at a furious pace in recent months. Midwest engineering personnel recently counted drops in a part of San Diego where CATV had been available for only three months. Of 159 homes in that area, 58 were wired for CATV—and this is an area where all three local stations can be satisfactorily received. In the June 1965 survey made for Midwest in the San Diego area by an independent research organization,¹ 300 cable subscribers were interviewed; 43 per cent had been subscribers for less than three months.

41. Nor have the Commission's admonitions to local authorities to proceed with caution curbed this activity thus far. Only recently the San Diego County supervisors approved a procedure for licensing CATV's in the unincorporated areas of the county. (*Broadcasting*, July 5, 1965, p. 80).

42. The three local VHF stations which serve San Diego already face serious audience fragmentation as a result of the importation of both network-owned and independent stations from Los Angeles and face the threat of yet more severe effects in the immediate future as operating systems expand their operations and as CATV systems which are franchised but not yet operating commence operations. All of this is true

¹ See footnote 2, p. 5, *supra*.

despite the fact that the stations are network affiliated, are well-established and have strong ownership and management, and despite the further fact that the San Diego market is a substantial one. Again, however, as in central Illinois, the most immediate effect will be upon the development of new UHF service. Construction permits are outstanding for two new commercial UHF stations to operate on Channels 3 and 51 in San Diego. Unless effective action is taken by the Commission, it is doubtful that either of these authorized UHF stations will go on the air or, if they do, that their operations will be viable.

43. There can be no doubt of the threat which this intensified activity poses to the development of UHF service in San Diego. The impact of rapidly expanding CATV on these *proposed* UHF stations can be clearly seen from the severe audience losses which the three *existing* VHF network affiliated stations face, as reflected in the June 1965 survey. Three hundred cable subscribers were asked, "Which channel do you now use most?" Only 49 per cent named a San Diego channel; fully 55 per cent named Los Angeles channel.² The same question was put to two groups of non-CATV subscribers (150 in areas where there is CATV and 150 in areas where there is no CATV). San Diego stations were named by 10 per cent and 94 per cent, respectively, while Los Angeles stations were named by only 5 per cent and 11 per cent. The survey also asked about stations used next most and third most frequently. The results are dramatic:

² An additional 10 per cent made no choice. Percentages total to more than 100 per cent because some multiple answers were given.

Per Cent of Respondents Who Named a San Diego Station as One of the Three Stations That Were Used Most

(Station Named)	Non-Subscribers	CATV Subscribers
FMB-TV.....	90%	44%
OGO.....	89%	48%
ETV.....	77%	29%

44. Perhaps even more striking, with respect to the impact on the proposed independent UHF San Diego stations, is the fact that 25 per cent of the 300 CATV subscribers interviewed named a Los Angeles *independent* station as the channel they used most; only 1 per cent and 2 per cent respectively, of the two groups of non-subscribers did so. Moreover, 56 per cent of the CATV subscribers (as compared with 1 per cent of non-subscribers) named at least one Los Angeles independent as one of the three stations used most.

45. Other statistical approaches likewise reveal that independents in communities like San Diego will have a rough go, at best. During the one-hour period from 5:00 to 6:00 in the afternoon, Monday through Friday, there was no duplication by Los Angeles stations of the programs broadcast in San Diego. In other words, all stations in both cities could be considered "independents" during that period, and a cable subscriber could watch any one of *ten* different programs. The audience lost to the Los Angeles stations was staggering. Among non-subscribers surveyed, 95 per cent of those who watched television during that hour watched one of the San Diego stations. Of cable subscribers, however, the three San Diego stations accounted for only 48 per cent of total viewing; the Los Angeles stations accounted for 52 per cent—16 per cent for the network stations, 36 per cent for the independents. One Los Angeles station alone (an independent) accounted for 20 per

cent, surpassing two of the three San Diego stations (which had 12 per cent and 11 per cent, respectively). Even during the 9-10 P.M. period on Sunday through Wednesday, when all San Diego programs were network programs duplicated by Los Angeles stations the Los Angeles independents accounted for 16 per cent of viewing time. In short, the new independent UHF stations proposed for San Diego will, in homes that are or will be CATV subscribers, be attempting to enter a market where, at various times of the day they will be attempting to compete for audience with ten other stations offering from seven to ten different programs to the public.

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B. THE SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED PROCEDURES IS TOO NARROW

48. For the foregoing reasons, Midwest strongly supports the Commission's approach of immediately taking interim action to keep the situation from getting out of hand while it proceeds to consider final and comprehensive regulations to govern CATV. However, the action must be expanded in scope if it is to be truly effective.

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C. A PROPOSED NEW INTERIM RULE

52. Accordingly, Midwest proposes that the Commission, by interim rule, issue a general stay against *all* further CATV activity where the CATV carrier or proposes to carry the signal of any station beyond its Grade B contour. While there should be such a general stay of all further CATV activity, Midwest believes it would be appropriate for the Commission to provide for an appropriate waiver of the stay in *limited* circumstances upon a special showing by the CATV system of public need for service. However

the Commission should *not consider* waiving such a stay except in those cases where the CATV system would serve a "white" area which is presently without any television service. In these cases the Commission should weigh the needs of the community against the possibility that CATV operations might impair the development of any existing, authorized or applied for local television station—UHF or VHF, independent or network-affiliated, commercial or educational—in the area. It should further consider the likelihood of off-the-air service to the community in question by translators or other low-powered stations.

53. The issue involved here is *not* a matter of making a final, complete disposition with respect to CATV regulation. The issue here is what action is required in order to maintain the orderly growth and development of television broadcasting during the pendency of these proceedings. This is not a situation where television service to the public would be frozen. Quite the contrary, the swift and orderly growth of UHF television will continue vigorously—even more so than if the Commission were to allow CATV to continue to expand "willy nilly" without direction, order, or purpose.

54. The stay rule proposed should become effective immediately upon its publication. It should be made fully effective with respect to (a) all subsequent CATV proposals, (b) all CATV systems which have franchise applications pending, and (c) all CATV systems for which franchises have been granted but which are not in operation. Any CATV system which was in existence prior to April 23, 1965, but which has subsequently expanded its lines or the number of its subscribers or has increased the number of stations carried since that date should be required to modify its operations to the extent necessary to

bring it into conformance with the interim rule. The April 23, 1965, cut-off date is entirely appropriate because that is the date when the Commission issued its *Notice of Inquiry and Notice of Proposed Rule Making* in Docket No. [1]5971, where it "put all persons who now operate or who propose to operate CATV systems on notice that CATV operations may be subject to Commission regulation of the nature indicated, whether microwave is used or not" (FCC 65-334, para. 65).

55. It is essential that the interim rule be made applicable to *existing* systems. The interim rule will be totally ineffective in many cities if non-conforming existing systems are allowed to continue to expand or extend their operations, string new cable, increase the number of subscribers, add outside stations, or in any other way expand their facilities or services. The continued expansion of non-conforming systems already constructed or operating can seriously damage existing local television operations, and could well foreclose the development of new UHF station operation forever. San Diego is an example of just such a situation. As previously mentioned, of the eight CATV systems in that area which are franchised four are presently in operation and are rapidly expanding their lines and subscribers.

56. Some of the damage in San Diego and elsewhere had already been done by April 23. But further CATV expansion has been pursued with the greatest vigor since that date, and the damage increases in proportion. And this has occurred in the teeth of the Commission's clear announcement in the Notice. The Commission should make plain that it means what it said. To avert to a useful analogy, the Commission has explained that the congressional policy behind requiring permits to *construct* broadcast

ations was "to discourage applicants [for operating licenses] from making large investments and using such investments as 'improper pressure' on the licensing authority." *WSAV, Inc.*, Docket Nos. 10517 and 10518, 10 R.R. 402, 403j (1955). In the circumstances, a rollback to the situation that existed on April 23, 1965, is singularly appropriate.

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APPENDIX E

COMMENTS OF ASSOCIATION OF MAXIMUM SERVICE TELECASTERS, INC.

DOCKET NO. 15971, FILED JULY 26, 1965

[Excerpts]

(167)



V. THE COMMISSION SHOULD BY SPECIAL RULES PROVIDE SUMMARY PROCEDURES TO HANDLE REQUESTS FOR OTHER OR DIFFERENT TREATMENT THAN PROVIDED FOR IN THE RULES

109. The Commission should adopt a specific rule providing for summary, non-hearing, procedures to handle claims for exceptions from any particular provision of the CATV rules and to handle requests for other or different treatment than is provided for in the rules, including the carriage, non-duplication and interim UHF rules. Such procedures would, for example, allow a party to whom the rules directly apply to seek a special exception from the rules or other special relief upon a showing of special circumstances or conditions justifying such treatment and would allow any other party affected by the rules to obtain an exception or special relief upon a similar showing.

110. In its *Notice of Further Proposed Rule Making and Notice of Proposed Rule Making* in Docket Nos. 14895 and 15233, the Commission proposed adoption of specific procedures whereby a party could seek special relief by showing that provisions of the then proposed CATV rules should not apply in the particular circumstances of the case (FCC 63-128, paras. 10-11, and proposed Sections 11.557 and 11.711). However, in its *First Report and Order* the Commission has deleted these proposed provisions, stating:

The Communications Act and our normal rules prescribe the procedures to be followed in considering applications for permits, licenses and other authorizations. Further, we have

provided generally for the consideration of requests for waiver of any rule. (See Section 1.3 of the Rules.) (FCC 65-335, para. 155)

However, neither existing procedures under the Act and the Commission's normal rules relating to applications nor the general waiver provision are adequate.

111. The present procedures for considering applications for permits, licenses and other authorizations would at the most only be applicable in the case of applications for microwave authorizations intended to serve CATV systems. Since the Commission has not asserted any general licensing authority over CATV systems, these procedures would not be applicable directly to CATV systems themselves and the Commission is proceeding to regulate CATV systems directly.

112. Nor does Section 1.3 of the existing rules afford an adequate procedure. This provision relates solely to the waiver of a rule. At best, it is doubtful that any party other than one to whom a rule is directed could request such a waiver. Thus, it is questionable whether a local broadcast station, for example, could seek the waiver of a rule which required or allowed a CATV system to carry the signal of another station in lieu of its signal. Moreover, even if it could do so, it is difficult to see how the relief would be adequate since Section 1.3 does not appear to contemplate anything other than a waiver or a *non application* of the rule in question, whereas *affirmative* relief may be required. For example, the Commission recognizes that, with respect to its system of priorities among stations as to carriage and non duplication, it may be necessary to "allow appropriate" relief upon the basis of a showing by one station that its signal should be afforded priority of treat

ment by the CATV system over the signals of another station which provides a calculated signal of equal or even higher grade (FCC 65-335, paras. 91(c) and 99, a. 55).

113. For such reasons, a procedure should be established by specific rule under which any party affected by the CATV rules could seek an exception or other appropriate special relief or treatment. We emphasize, however, that the procedures established for this purpose should require adequate notice to all interested parties, but should be summary in nature and should be confined to written submissions by the parties concerned, except where the Commission concludes that more is required in any particular situation. Burdensome and time-consuming evidentiary hearings on these matters as a matter of course would not serve the public interest and, moreover, are not necessary in order to provide effective relief where relief is appropriate.

